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FOLLOWING upon the Leader in our last issue concerning the need to explore the secrets of gravity, rather than the destructive reactions produced by using nuclear energy, we would like to point out the apparent relationship between nuclear experiments, disturbances on the sun (flares and explosions), magnetic storms on earth and resultant radio blackouts.

During the periods November, 1955, February-March, 1956, May, 1956, and late August-September, 1956, there was unusually intense activity on the sun, including solar flares which resulted in magnetic storms on earth. The presence of these magnetic disturbances was shown by some of the worst disruptions to Britain's radio link with other countries for several years.

Notably, during late February, 1956, readers will recall the drama of the apparent lost submarine, H.M.S. *Acheron,* in the Denmark Strait, between Greenland and Iceland. The cause of her radio silence being due to magnetic disturbances.

More recently, on September 8, unusually powerful sunspot activity played havoc with Sweden's railway signalling system and disrupted rail traffic all over that country. The sunspot activity produced variations in the earth's magnetic field and interfered with the current operating the signalling system.

At the start of each of these periods, one or more of the great powers was conducting a series of nuclear tests. During the last of these an explosion occurred on the sun comparable in force to that of 1,000 million atomic bombs and covering a surface area five times larger than that of the earth.

On reading the above any thinking person will readily see an interrelationship between nuclear experiments and solar eruptions. That we are approaching with the coming of 1958 the peak of the present 11-year sunspot cycle is no valid argument that the present outbursts on the sun can be classified as natural phenomena; for anyone who so desires can check the precise dates of nuclear experiments and will perceive that great activity on the sun followed in the majority of occasions within 48 hours.

This being the case, not only the entire security of this planet is threatened with every nuclear experiment that takes place, but every form of life in the whole solar system, since everything within it is held in orbit by extremely sensitive magnetic balances. A "blue print" of perfect order operated by Law. It is not necessary that a body be thrown off course to disrupt the whole, as a minute change in the magnetic field pattern in which the entire solar system resides will throw it out of gear.

As activity on the sun is now in 1956 greater than would be expected at the height of the present cycle in 1958, what will be the effect of the combination of the results of further nuclear activity, together with normal solar processes two years hence?

NEWS REPORT

THE STRANGEST UFO CASE OF ALL

Exclusive Despatch

by DESMOND LESLIE

I WAS in Ireland when reports came that a u.f.o. had landed on a Derry farm, about forty miles away, and that a bewildered farmer had actually handled the thing before it escaped.

I finally located John Hutchinson, who owns a small farm, Ballyniel, The Loup, near Moneymore. I spent some time with him and I gained information missed by the reporters who, I believe, rather confused him.

Once again, we find a simple man without very great powers of expression, suffering difficulty in conveying what he had actually seen. But with perseverance we were able to reconstruct the event. Hutchinson may not be eloquent, but he has a good memory and good powers of observation, as is often the case with farmers.

About noon on September 7, Mr. and Mrs. Hutchinson were in their farmhouse when both noticed an object descending rapidly into a field 250 yards away. The object fell into a small valley just on the far side of a hedge and small stream. It remained there motionless, so Hutchinson pulled on his rubber boots and went to investigate. It was so wet that he took a detour round the lanes, coming upon the object about ten minutes later, during which time it had not moved from its position.

He found it sitting on a tuft of grass, the only dryish bit of ground in a muddy, sodden field, about six feet from the stream.

It was roughly an elongated, pointed sphere, about three feet six on its major diameter, two feet on its minor diameter, red in colour and rubbery in appearance.

There was a small red knob or point on top, and the bottom was gathered rather like the neck of a bag, but more regular. Round the middle were four thinnish, white stripes which he said weren't "regular." I finally learned what he meant was that the colours blended gradually as if put on with a spray brush, so that the transition from red to white occupied about an inch of the surface. Apart from that, the stripes were regular and uniform all the way round.

He found it sitting upright on this gathered base. Gingerly, he kicked it over; it promptly righted itself.

Then, seeing it didn't move and no minute Martians came out, he reached down and picked it up by the gathered base. The feeling he told me was like canvas outside and slippery rubber inside. The moment he picked it up, it began to spin. He was not quite sure, but he thinks it spun a few times anti-clockwise, then reversed and began spinning the other way.

"I thought there was a twist in it and it would run down," he said.

He carried it to a point where he could climb through the hedge and cross the stream, intending to take it up to the house as a souvenir. On the way he tried to turn it over (still holding it at arm's length) but found he was unable to do so.

Asked how heavy it was, Hutchinson took my 2-lb. cine camera and said: "Aye, it was a wee bit lighter than this. But the moment it left my hand when I put it down near the stream, it was up and away so fast it disappeared into the clouds in a few seconds."

The clouds were low and it was raining hard. "As bad a day as I've known," confirmed Hutchinson. And that in Ireland, where if you see mountains you know it's going to rain, and if you can't see them you know it's raining already, is quite something. It ruled out the possibility of a waterlogged balloon being forced down and taking off once it had dried out.

Nothing in the nature of a meteorological instrument came off the object when Hutchinson picked it up and nothing was found when he and the police searched the area. So, it couldn't have taken off because it had been lightened.

What puzzled him, though, was that when he picked it up it began to spin. " I thought there was a twist in it that would run down," he explained. " But it didn't. It kept spinning faster and faster." As he held it by its stationary base at arm's length, these would have seemed to have been more than 300 r.p.m.

The spinning lasted about three minutes while Hutchinson carried the object up the field, and when he put it down it accelerated. Only the rush of the wind was apparent as it spun. There was no noise.

The only reason he let it go was because he had to make a way for himself and the object through the hedge.

Asked whether it tried to get away while he was holding it, Hutchinson replied in the negative. It did not tug or pull either. My questions became more precise and I asked him then whether it felt just like a balloon would have done. " It did," he answered. " I'd have thought it was a balloon only for the spinning of it."

" There was little wind and it was raining too heavily for it to have dried off and lost enough weight to escape."

Something in the filing cabinet of my brain jumped into place.

" You mean there was no moisture on the outside?"

" None at all."

" Are you quite sure?"

" I am, right enough. It was quite dry."

" Do you know what a balloon would look like in the rain? Do you know what water looks like on rubber?"

He smiled. " Look at my wet boots. It should have been running down it, but it wasn't. There was no wet on it."

Oh, but that would account for a balloon that had dried out. Having dried, it would ascend.

I put this to him again. Only to be met with: " It never stopped one moment that day. It was one of the worst rains I've known, and it never stopped at all."

Something very familiar here. Our friend the Force Field repelling moisture, dust, etc.—a feature of every saucer. What but some entirely new water-repelling process would keep the surface of this sphere completely dry, except a force field? Has the Air Ministry got such a process? Even if they have, that would eliminate the weight of moisture as being the cause of its descent. But something COULD have dropped off to make it lighter—something they haven't yet found. Yes, that's true. If it was kept dry and afterwards lightened for these two reasons, then it was a balloon. A balloon that spins for five or ten minutes independently on its base?

" Damn it, Mr. Hutchinson. What do *you* think it was?"

" I'd have said it was a balloon. I didn't think it was that odd until it starts spinning and goes away fast as lightning."

" Have you ever released a balloon?"

" Yes, and it never went like a balloon. It went straight up and very fast and as it rose those white stripes, the ones on the side I told you of, seemed to go like bright silver. As though the sun was shining on it. I thought for a moment it was sun reflecting on them.

" Did anyone else see it?" I asked.

" They did, now. My wife was with me and she saw it come down. She watched from the house and sees it go away, too."

The question now to be asked is this: Does the Air Ministry possess any balloon-like device, roughly pear-shaped, about three feet six long, tapering to a knob at one end, and a gathering at the other; red in colour, with four white stripes round the middle—a device that can descend and rise vertically at some speed, and that can rotate rapidly and silently on its axis while the base remains unmoved? If so, what is it?

If they do not possess such a device, then it seems that something entirely new in remotely-controlled u.f.o.s has looked in on a north Irish farm. Small u.f.o.s said to be remote-controlled observation devices have been known to land, but have disintegrated in sparks, or have (as in a Kentucky case) dissolved into jelly and thence into air before the astonished gaze of investigators. But this device allowed itself to be marched across a field, making no violent efforts to free itself (other than the spinning) until released voluntarily by the farmer. It then rose vertically and the white bands appeared to glow

with their own light, despite a 10/10 overcast.

Frankly, I don't know what it was. But it was NOT a balloon.

Hutchinson struck me as an amiable honest fellow. He found it hard to describe, but he did his best. He was definitely not inventing anything. He merely told me, as best he could, all he could recall about the strange whirling object he'd held in his hands between twelve and a quarter-past midday on Friday, September 7, 1956.

But if only he hadn't let go of it to get through that hedge!

THOUSANDS SEE 80-ft. SAUCER OVER LINCOLNSHIRE

A FLYING SAUCER was sighted both visually and by radar over Cleethorpes, Lincolnshire, England, on Saturday afternoon, September 22.

High over the promenade the mystery sphere glittered in the blue sky. Thousands watched it hovering high overhead.

"It looked like a glass globe with something white inside," said an eyewitness.

The object was at 54,000 ft. and remained apparently stationary for about an hour, though there was a wind of more than 40 m.p.h. at that height.

Meteorologists reported it as having a diameter of 80 ft. A Meteorological Office spokesman at Manby R.A.F. Station who studied the object through a telescope said: "I don't know what it is. It certainly is not a balloon from here."

Two fighter aircraft were sent up to investigate. When they arrived at the point where the object had been seen they found nothing, nor could it any longer be seen from the ground.

ON BRITAIN'S SOUTH COAST

Radar defence stations were alerted on September 1 by a u.f.o. which set the Air Ministry a pretty problem.

For hours the radar screens showed a "blip" which should not have been there. Jet aircraft sent to investigate were plotted across the screens —and their tracks went right through the mystery "blip." The crews reported: "We have seen nothing."

The Chief of Air Staff, Sir Dermot Boyle, and the A.O.C.-in-C. of Fighter Command were told.

Fighter Command radar stations in London first saw the "blip" at 10 p.m. on Thursday, August 30. Half an hour later a Meteor crew preparing to land at West Malling (Kent) saw "an odd light" in the sky.

Ground control told them: "We can see it, too, but we can't identify it."

Flight-Lieutenant Harry Goldstone, navigator in a Mk XI Meteor, said: "We were at about 2,000 ft. The light was a few thousand feet above us, but it didn't have a star's intensity of light.

"I don't subscribe to flying saucers, but I don't know what this light was. Nor does anyone else."

Search planes were sent up to fly at 6,000 ft. and above in case the object was a balloon trailing cables.

The Air Ministry had no report of a balloon breaking away.

AND NEW ZEALAND

Squadron-Leader K. B. Smith, a member of the Queen's Flight during the Royal Tour and commanding officer of No. 4 Transport Squadron at Whenuapai, New Zealand, recently saw a flying saucer.

Squadron-Leader Smith was coming in to land in a Hastings at 6.42 p.m. on September 3, when he saw a glowing object with a white nose flash across the sky.

"I was at 500 ft. when I saw it," he said. "I kept it in sight until I touched down.

"At first I thought it was a jet, but then I realised it was not. The thing was travelling on a horizontal plane at a fantastic speed."

Squadron-Leader Smith said that a colleague, Squadron-Leader O. Staples, also saw the object.

WORLD ROUNDUP

A bi-monthly global review of the latest sightings

EUROPE

Great Britain

A pale yellow object streaked across the evening sky over Kinson, Dorset, on Tuesday, June 12, leaving a trail of blue sparks.

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW's correspondent in the Bournemouth area, Mr. D. A. Cadel, of Highcliffe-on-Sea, Hants, personally investigated this sighting and has sent us a very full report.

He reports that Mrs. R. Scott, of 1470A, Wimborne Road, Kinson, spotted the yellow light at about 10.25 p.m.

"It was travelling at a remarkable speed in the south-westerly direction," she said, "and from my view seemed to dip down over the horizon."

Subsequently, Mrs. M. Follett, of New Milton, Hants, said she saw the object from her kitchen window. "It appeared just as Mrs. Scott said, and as bright as magnesium. I have never seen anything like it before. My son was fishing at Barton-on-Sea and he saw it. He says before reaching the horizon it grew to a larger size and then seemed to disintegrate."

Another eyewitness was Mrs. E. Keller, of Parkstone, Poole, Dorset, who saw the object at about the same time as Mrs. Scott did. "It was large and oval shaped, luminous and blue at the tail, and travelling at terrific speed," she said.

* * *

"When my husband used to talk about flying saucers I used to pooh-pooh them. Now I'm definitely convinced!" said Mrs. B. Shutt, of 100, London Road, Stockton Heath, Cheshire.

At 12.30 a.m. on Thursday, July 19, both she and her husband—a non-sceptic—saw a mysterious u.f.o. in the sky from their back bedroom.

Mr. Shutt, an architect, said: "It was a brilliantly-lit object, quite high, and looked to us between the size of a sixpence and a halfpenny. As soon as you saw it, you had a queer feeling that it was something different from anything you had seen before. Our back bedroom faces towards Frodsham, and it was in that direction that the thing was. It seemed quite close."

"When we first saw it, it was like looking at a disc edge-on, brilliantly lit from above but shaded underneath. After five minutes it faded away, but we kept our eyes on it and it reappeared lower in the sky. *I phoned up Mr. and Mrs. W. Waterfield next door at* 102 *and they got out of bed to watch it.*

"On the second appearance, it was elliptical in shape but changed to that of a sphere. At first there appeared to be two small objects in line astern with it, but these faded out. The sphere faded out for a second time and did not reappear. We had it in view for about five minutes on each appearance. The brilliant light varied from white to gold."

* * *

What did Mr. Porcher see over Eccles? Was the red, glowing object which Mr. Paul Porcher saw low in the sky over Eccles, Lancashire, on Monday, August 13, a flying saucer—or an optical illusion?

Mr. Porcher, of Franklyn Avenue, Flixton, Manchester, is a photographer with Manchester Oil Refinery Ltd., Old Trafford.

He said: "It was 5 p.m. I came out of the dark-room at work and glanced up. I saw the object framed between the slope of two roofs at Barton Power Station.

"It was about 50 yards across and 250 to 300 feet up. It seemed to have bevelled edges and was shaped like a cup upside down on a saucer.

"It remained stationary for about 15 seconds and then moved very fast towards Eccles. There was no noise and it was red in colour.

"I am not claiming to have seen a flying saucer. It may have been a reflection or an optical illusion."

Swinton meteorologist Mr. G. S. Wood commented: "The formation of the clouds at that time means that what Mr. Porcher saw could *not* have been a reflection of the sun on the cloud.

The fact that it remained stationary for some time rules out the possibility of it being a meteor. It could *not* have been a comet either, since it appeared so near.

" But this does not in itself mean that it was an optical illusion. I never rule out the possibility of flying saucers in these cases."

* * *

Strange objects over Leicestershire were reported the very next day, Tuesday, August 14.

Mr. David Hester, of 414, Gipsy Lane, Leicester, and Miss Brenda Wagstaff, of 3, Farley Road, Stoneygate, were waiting at a bus stop in London Road, near Miss Wagstaff's home, when an orange glow in the clear night attracted their attention.

They were amazed to see three other similar lights—one much bigger than the others—come from opposite directions and meet over Oadby. As they came together, a green flare emerged and petered out.

The four orange lights, of circular shape, then moved off in the direction of London.

" We had them under observation for about ten minutes," they said. " There was no sound."

They insisted that the strange lights were not from aircraft. They had seen an aeroplane pass over a few minutes before, " *and these were entirely different—almost uncanny.*"

★ ★ ★

Flying saucers were reported over Reading, Berkshire, early on Thursday morning, August 16.

Mr. H. Wheeler, of 7, Abbey Street, Reading, whose bedroom faces northwards, looking towards Sonning, claims to have seen a " bright red star " in that area at about 1.30 a.m. and watched it for about two minutes.

At about the same time, Miss W. Dibdin, of Sonning, reported seeing a flying saucer.

Miss Susan Hoyle, of " Oakfield," Green Road, Sonning Common, was out with her boy friend, David Summers, also of Sonning Common, when they saw a strange oval-shaped object in the north-west. At first glance it seemed to be a break in the clouds, but on their looking more closely it had a definite silvery glow about it.

The saucer was about three times the size of the moon, and was followed by another of similar shape and size. Yet a third came into view, slightly larger than the other two. Small, dark circles appeared to be continually merging with one another in the first two objects, while the third contained one large circle slowly revolving.

Miss Hoyle and Mr. Summers watched the objects for about five minutes. The saucers passed slowly across the sky until hidden from their eyes behind a large tree. They then disappeared into the clouds and that was the last they saw of them.

* * *

Mystery object over Stormont, Northern Ireland. Two days prior to Mr. Hutchinson's adventures with a 3-ft. saucer (fully described by Desmond Leslie on page 2), police at Stormont were collecting eyewitness accounts of a mysterious object which hovered in the sky over the Northern Parliament buildings for over two hours on Wednesday evening, September 5.

The object was first sighted by Mr. Richard Lappin, of Thornhill Park, directly opposite the main gates to Stormont Buildings. Going out-

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- **"Anyone who feels that the question of the existence or non-existence of beings from other worlds or dimensions is not of paramount importance should get someone to crack him on the skull with a sledgehammer** ... Page 20
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doors because of the persistent barking of his dog, he saw an irregularly-shaped object moving in the misty sky overhead.

It occasionally moved at a very fast speed and sometimes was almost stationary.

Mr. Lappin and his wife were joined by neighbours, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Brown, in keeping the object under observation. *They watched it for more than two hours before finally giving up their vigil.*

Mr. Lappin reported the object to Aldergrove Meteorological Station, who said it was highly unlikely that it could be a weather balloon.

The Met. officials put forward the view that what appeared to be an object was in fact reflection from broken low-lying clouds.

Germany

A blurred and bell-shaped saucer was seen by Herr and Frau Wilhelm Koenig, of Kleine Langgasse 4, Mainz. They were returning home from a cinema at 10.34 p.m. (Central European time) on the evening of September 6 when they saw a bell-shaped saucer. They did not mistake it for Mars, which was to be seen in the southeast. The saucer was glowing a dark-red colour—although it changed to orange—and appeared to be about half the size of Mars looked at from where they were. It moved from Cassiopeia to Mars, and there it disappeared, diminishing its size.

They watched the object for about 50 seconds.

★ ★ ★

Former London model, Fiona Campbell-Walter, who has just married Baron von Thyssen, in an interview with Eric Kennedy of the *Daily Express,* stated that she saw a flying saucer over Lake Lugano on the evening of September 5.

"It was pink, large and round. It remained stationary over the lake a long time and then flew off," she said.

AFRICA

Kenya

Object passes over the moon. At 6.55 p.m. (East African Time) on October 30, 1955, Brigadier S. K. Murray, of P.O. Box 5, Kiganjo, observed an object which was first seen as a brilliantly-glowing orb. The direction of travel was approximately north-west to south-east.

The object then passed right across the face of the moon, being visible on it as a dark spot. Possibly, this was its shadow on the moon as it traversed that body? It took between 12/20 seconds to cross the moon. Subsequently, on leaving the moon it once more appeared as a brilliantly-glowing globe in space.

(Readers of the last issue of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW will recall the article, "Strange Lunar Lights," by W. K. Oliver, which makes Brigadier Murray's sighting of special interest.—Ed.)

Morocco

Newspaper offices and police stations in the area were flooded with eyewitness reports when a u.f.o. flew along the Moroccan coast from east to west on the night of Monday, August 27.

The object emitted a green light mingled with reddish flashes. During a period of eight minutes it showed itself four times.

At 8.15 a.m. the next morning, both Lady Scott and her son, Mr. Michael Scott, saw a brilliant silver box-like object which flew in a north-westerly direction over the Agricultural hills, about 1½ miles west of Tangier City.

These sightings capped a week in which flying saucers cavorted over the Bay of Tangiers, it is reported from Tetuan.

Rhodesia

Flying saucer hovers over Ndola. A round, silvery object was seen in the sky north of Ndola early on Tuesday morning, July 3, by Mr. L. Walker, a railway employee.

"It hovered in one place for about four minutes, moved slightly, then all of a sudden began to fade and within seconds had disappeared," said Mr. Walker.

Other railway workers who saw the strange object said it was a flying saucer. The Meteorological Office said it could not have been a balloon, as the daily balloons had been sent up at 5.30 a.m., and would have disappeared by 8 o'clock.

Messrs. Harry S. Hopkins and Co.'s employees also saw the object.

★ ★ ★

An aerial survey of the Northern Rhodesia Copperbelt was made by a u.f.o. on Thursday, August 9. Bright and flickering, it sped through the darkness that evening and was sighted above Ndola, Kitwe, Chingola and Bancroft.

In fact, it completed what might well have

been an aerial survey of the Northern Rhodesia Copperbelt.

Men were brought out into the dark from the warmth of Copperbelt bars, laughing at the joke their pals were pulling.

But the smiles left their faces as soon as they cast their eyes skyward and saw the mystery object, first hovering and then darting away.

All the old alibis have been tested. There were no flights scheduled over that irregular route. It was not a meteorological balloon, and even if it had been it would never show up in the dark.

The Rhodesian *Sunday Mail* commented: "They can pooh-pooh flying saucers to their hearts' content. They can laugh at those stories of lights flashing in the sky just around sundownertime. *But without the faintest shadow of a doubt, there was a mystery object in the sky of Northern Rhodesia this week.*"

South Africa

Woman takes photo of flying saucer. Mrs. Elizabeth Klarer, of Johannesburg, photographed a saucer in the foothills of the Drakensberg, Natal, on Tuesday, July 24.

"I took the picture on the farm, "Whytelease," at Rosetta, Natal," she said. "The farm belongs to my brother-in-law, Major D. C. Flower, who has also seen one of these objects.

Mrs. Klarer said that the picture was taken at 11.30 a.m. The sun was behind her, and she was facing due south. The object was moving fairly fast. She used a box camera.

Later, Mrs. Klarer said it was difficult to judge how far away the saucer was.

"I went up to a kopje to take pictures of the homestead. I saw a vivid flash in the sky over the wattle plantation, about 100 yards away, followed by another, which became an object in the sky.

"I tried to focus it in my viewfinder. It was difficult, but fortunately it slowed down and hovered, then made several weaving detours overhead. I took several photographs, but only two turned out really clearly. They were the last two, when the saucer was comparatively near me. Then it streaked away upwards and was lost to view.

Mrs. Klarer added that there was no sound of any engines and no smell. "But it was surrounded by a sort of shimmering, heat haze."

She said that the object was a dull metallic grey, until it was lighted up by the sun. Then it shone with a silvery colour.

ASIA

Pakistan

Flying saucer seen over Peshawar. A u.f.o., circular in shape, was seen in Peshawar after midnight by the people on Wednesday, July 4. The object was deep red, and left behind dazzling light sparks at intervals. It remained visible for over two minutes and then disappeared behind the Khyber hills in the north.

Enquiries showed that it was not any country's experimental balloon.

* * *

A Reuter report from Karachi states that Captain A. Aziz, a pilot of Pakistan International Airlines, has reported sighting a flying saucer, which was deep red with a blue trail, and flying at about 30,000 feet.

AUSTRALASIA

Fiji Islands

From turtles to saucers. A report has reached Suva that 10 part-European men fishing for turtle off Wakaya Island on Thursday, July 12, sighted a flying saucer in the sky. All the men watched for two hours.

The saucer appeared to have square portholes through which a very strong, glowing light shone. The object was last seen passing over Levuka.

NORTH AMERICA

U.S.A.

Beautiful jewel over Indiana. Frank Edwards, of Station WTTV, Indianapolis, reports that a brilliant saucer appeared high in the south-eastern sky over Gary, Indiana, at 12.45 a.m. on Saturday, July 14. At least five substantial citizens of Gary saw it and were enthralled. One of them, August Barnett, said it was like a beautiful jewel. He described it as big as a full moon and that it seemed to have a bright white light in its centre. He added: "The outer edges could have been dotted with rubies it was so brilliant." Barnett called the Civil Defense Director, Bud Bardowski, and told him to look. Bardowski saw it, too, and reported it to the Air Defense Command at Truax Field.

(FLYING SAUCER REVIEW is indebted to C.R.I.F.O. ORBIT, Vol. 3, No. 6, for this interesting report.—Ed.)

"Flying Saucer Review" launches

INTERNATIONAL UFO OBSERVER CORPS

THE two International Flying Saucer Sighting Days on June 30 and September 8, sponsored by this magazine, created world-wide interest, judging by the number of u.f.o. sighting reports sent in from every continent.

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW now announces a further important step, the formation of an International U.F.O. Observer Corps.

Already a nucleus of astronomers, scientists and well-trained observers are watching the skies and sending in regular reports from countries as far apart as Venezuela and Thailand. Many more observers are wanted for this work from all over the world.

Observers are asked to watch the skies for a regular definite period each week—if possible in teams of two or more—and to send in weekly reports, whether they see anything or not.

All those who wish to volunteer to regularly skywatch with the U.F.O. Observer Corps should write now to FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, and ask for a supply of u.f.o. sighting forms.

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW is co-operating in this global skywatch with all other civilian saucer research organisations throughout the world, and especially with Civilian Saucer Investigation (N.Z.), who have started an intensive seven-month vigil covering areas bounded by New Zealand territorial waters, while Earth and Mars are still in close proximity.

The International U.F.O. Observer Corps will also co-operate with scientific bodies taking part in the International Geophysical Year, and notably with PROJECT VANGUARD which is launching the Earth Satellite Programme.

Why "Flying Saucer Review" is interested in Project Vanguard

The following announcement was recently broadcast by Ben Shirley, of radio station WSMB, New Orleans, U.S.A. Here is a verbatim report, reproduced from C.R.I.F.O. ORBIT:

"This is Ben Shirley at News Headquarters of the Air Force Association Convention in the Roosevelt Hotel. Dramatic news which could affect the lives of every man, woman and child on this earth has been given exclusively to WSMB and this reporter. The basic story revolves around two of the most publicised events in the history of this or any other nation: Flying saucers and the Earth Satellite Programme. . . . For years, hundreds and thousands of reports of so-called flying saucers have been studied, analysed and reviewed by the U.S. Air Force, and by top scientists both in this country and abroad. As you know, some 30 or more countries are taking part in what is technically known as Project Vanguard. . . . That project is the launching of those 20-inch globes into outer space next year by this country, as a part of its participation in the Geophysical Year. Now, here is the meat of this exclusive report to New Orleans and the world: WSMB had been told by some of the highest-ranking Government officials in this country that the Air Force, in spite of claims to the contrary, is vitally concerned about flying saucers. Publicly, the Air Force *has never denied* that these flying saucers could be spaceships from other planets. **Next year, when those earth satellites are shot out beyond the earth's atmosphere, at least two, and possibly more of them, will be equipped with special electronic instruments which will be used to study flying saucers when they are observed.** *This has never before been told to the American people.* But the top scientists of this and other countries are convinced that flying saucers are not merely the results of somebody's imagination or having too many highballs. They are *convinced,* even though no public announcement has been made, that the earth is under constant surveillance by these vessels from outer space, and it is for this reason that at least two of those multi-million-dollar earth satellites will be especially equipped to study the so-called saucers. . . . It all boils down to this: While this and other Governments are officially ridiculing flying saucers, they are secretly doing everything possible to study the spaceships. . . . This is Ben Shirley returning you now to your studios. . . ."

(see "Uranus" for Dec. 1956 (page 50))

Mr. Nigel Birch, Secretary of State for Air.

"TELL US PLEASE, MR BIRCH!"

says John Pitt

THE Air Ministry has been interested in u.f.o.s since 1947. This has been admitted in a statement to the Press. It has been admitted also that information has been exchanged between the Air Ministry and the U.S.A.F. Air Technical Intelligence Center, better known perhaps as A.T.I.C.

The branch of the Air Ministry which deals with u.f.o. reports is, according to the *Sunday Dispatch*, September 28, 1952, known as D.D.I. (Technical). This Air Ministry equivalent of its opposite number at A.T.I.C. is, rather ironically, housed *in* an attic.

To date this country has failed to produce the counterpart of the ubiquitous Major Keyhoe, so it will remain a mystery to us whether D.D.I. (Technical) has at its command all the apparently vast and variegated staff whose functions have so vividly been described both by the Marine Corps Major and, later, by the U.S.A.F. Officer, Captain Ruppelt, who was in charge of A.T.I.C.'s "Project Blue Book."

I would like to remind readers that A.T.I.C. went to some considerable pains to obtain the information published last year in the "Project Blue Book" Report. It appears that there is a complete Air Intelligence Squadron (4602), one of whose chief functions is to investigate u.f.o. sighting reports, that there were at one time flights of the U.S.A.F.'s swiftest fighter aircraft, stripped of all armament, whose mission it was to pursue and to attempt to shoot only camera film at u.f.o.s reported within the area of the bases where they were held in immediate readiness.

It would be interesting to know whether this country can boast that it has taken the same interest. Some considerable interest must have been taken in 1952, for Captain Ruppelt describes how he met at A.T.I.C. two R.A.F. Intelligence Officers who, on an official visit, had brought six single-spaced sheets of typescript containing questions on u.f.o.s to be discussed with their opposite numbers in the U.S.A.F.

It would also be interesting to know whether the Air Ministry has at its disposal the same number of civilian experts. Captain Ruppelt describes, in his recently-published *Report on Unidentified Flying Objects,* what he calls "Project Bear." This project was launched to obtain further information from that gleaned by solely Service personnel under projects "Sign," "Grudge" and "Blue Book," and was staffed by rocket engineers, chemists, mathematicians, physicists, an astronomer, statisticians, as well as a psychological section which worked in conjunction with the Psychology Department of an American University.

If the Air Ministry has *not* taken this u.f.o. mystery as seriously as its American counterpart,

I would like to know by what process of investigation it has been possible for the Air Ministry and the Under-Secretary of State for Air to state within a matter of weeks that flying saucers do *not* exist—according to an Air Ministry statement early in 1955 and, by the Under-Secretary of State for Air, in Parliament, in March the same year:

"Reports of flying saucers, as well as other abnormal objects in the sky, are investigated as they come in, but there has been no formal inquiry.

"About 90 per cent. of the reports have been found to relate to meteors, balloons, flares, and many other objects. The fact that the other objects are unexplained need be attributed to nothing more sinister than lack of data."

From the latter statement we deduce that 10 *per cent.* have not been explained; the figure upon which this percentage is based is not quoted but, according to my colleague, Ronald R. Russell, to whom most of the remainder of this article must be acknowledged, it was given as *15,000* from 1947-1954. This information, by the way, was solicited from an official at D.D.I. (Tech.) during a discussion held there by appointment in 1954.

At the time, therefore, of the Under-Secretary of State for Air's statement the estimated number of " unknowns " must have been slightly in excess of 1,500! This I think is a good starting point.

Brazier Sighting

In March this year I received a letter from David Wightman, Editor of *URANUS*, who invited me to accompany him on a visit to the Air Ministry. His purpose was to see what might be happening to these 1,500 plus unexplained u.f.o. reports and, in particular, to find out whether the Maurice Brazier (" Galloway ") sighting had ever been investigated by the officials at D.D.I. (Tech.).

Readers will probably remember that this excellently reported sighting was published in the Nov.-Dec. issue last year of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW but, for the benefit of those who did not read this report, I would like to repeat that this was of a u.f.o. seen by Maurice Brazier, an ex-R.A.F. type, who was driving a van from Newton Stewart to his home, some time in October, 1955, on a fine moonlit night. Mr. Brazier watched this object for some time and made quite the most comprehensive report that I have yet had the pleasure to study.

The Public Relations Officer at the Air Ministry stated that he had never heard of this sighting, saying that only reports which were sent by viewers themselves were investigated by the Air Ministry. He denied, by the way, that there was a separate branch in the Air Ministry that dealt solely with u.f.o. reports.

Slight Contradiction

During the discussion many sightings were discussed. A full account was written of this interview by David Wightman in the June issue of *URANUS*, and those who are interested should read the full story. My immediate interest was in the fact that we had been told that only sightings submitted by the persons immediately concerned were further investigated. I therefore asked what had been the official statement on the u.f.o. seen on October 14, 1954, by Flt./Lt. J. R. Salandin. I was astonished to hear that this official had never officially been informed that this sighting had been reported!

Again for the benefit of readers who may not have heard of this case, I would like to say that this pilot's report was submitted, together with a special recommendation from his Commanding Officer to Fighter Command Headquarters. The circumstances of this sighting are, briefly, as follows:

Whilst flying an R.A.F. Meteor, Flt./Lt. Salandin, of 604 Squadron, Royal Auxiliary Air Force, had been watching two unidentified objects high over Southend. He was, by the way, completely sceptical about the existence of flying saucers. When these objects passed out of sight, travelling at some considerable speed, he turned to look again to his front and saw another strange object coming directly at him. Describing this object as having " a bun-shaped top, a flange like two saucers in the middle, and a bun underneath," Salandin said that it was travelling at tremendous speed on his own level and that, after closing in, it swerved and passed on his port side. His only regret, and ours, is that he did not have the presence of mind to press the button of his camera-gun.

I wonder how this Service report was explained and under what circumstances it had not officially

come to the ears of the Air Ministry's official spokesmen?

David Wightman was promised that, provided that the Maurice Brazier report was forwarded through the official channels, he, the P.R.O., would see that it went to the appropriate section. This, incidentally, after having previously informed us that there was no separate branch which dealt with u.f.o. reports.

Wightman and I discussed what we had been told during this long interview and he passed to me a letter he had received from Maurice Brazier in which a full description appeared, plus some illustrations, of the "Galloway" u.f.o. I had three photostat copies made of this letter and handed one copy to an official at D.D.I. (Tech.) itself. A second copy was sent by hand to the P.R.O. at the Air Ministry, and a third, together with the original, went back to David Wightman, suggesting that Mr. Brazier should now write a covering letter to the Air Ministry and include this photostat copy. Whether or not Maurice Brazier has done so I do not know, but I do know that there are two copies in the hands of the Air Ministry.

I wonder how they have been classified—"Explained" or "Unexplained"?

Radar Trackings

So far I have dealt only with two reports which may or may not have been classified. My next case concerns a u.f.o. that was tracked on a radar screen, watched through the sighting telescope of the same radar set, and which, from circumstantial evidence, seems also to have been observed by the crew of an R.A.F. Vampire night-fighter. This case was reported both by the War Office and by the R.A.F. aircrew concerned. This case, unlike the two I have discussed, *has* been "explained" by the Air Ministry, but more anon.

In November 3, 1953, Flying Officers T. S. Johnson and C. Smythe were flying over Kent at an altitude of some 20,000 feet when they saw very high above themselves an unidentifiable object travelling at a tremendous airspeed. On their return to base they made a full report and later were interrogated for an hour and a half by Intelligence Officers at Fighter Command.

This sighting took place latish in the morning. In the early afternoon Sergeant H. Waller, of 265 H.A.A. Regt., R.A., was operating an Army Type 3, Mark VII, radar set at the barracks at Lee Green when he tracked on the screen a large "blip" moving slowly at 61,000 feet. This he said was of an object "three or four times larger than the largest airliner." Using the sighting telescope attached to the set, he and four others observed a circular object which emitted intermittent flashes. This sighting was investigated by Derek Dempster and was first published under his name in the *Daily Express* on November 11, 1953.

The Air Ministry's rationale was that a radio-sonde meteorological balloon had been released at 2 p.m. that afternoon from Crawley, that it had drifted slowly over East Grinstead, and had descended slowly by parachute into the Channel near Eastbourne at 3.30.

Some Balloon!

That may well be so. *A radio-sonde balloon is, however, of only some* 12 *feet in diameter. The "Skyhook" balloon, the largest Met. balloon in use, is only* 75 *feet in diameter. The object watched by Sergeant Waller would have been, according to his analogy, of some* 350 *to* 450 *feet in diameter! The object observed by the radar operator was* hovering *over* Kent *for some considerable time, the radio-sonde balloon was drifting over Sussex! The object seen by the Vampire aircrew was also seen over Kent*—although, in all fairness, it would be begging the question to assume that this was (i) the same object or (ii) that it had not flown out of the area in a south-westerly direction.

This latter question-begging is, I suggest, trivial in comparison to that which seems, in the face of fact, to have been indulged in by the Air Ministry!

I am reliably informed that there are three large wooden filing cabinets in the D.D.I. (Tech.) "attic." In each cabinet were three drawers, locked by Yale-type locks, and doubly secured by a hinged plate locked in turn by a large padlock. In these drawers, so he was informed in 1954, lay the 15,000 u.f.o. reports which had been investigated since work began in 1947.

I have worked in an Intelligence Branch of the War Office; oddly enough, its Headquarters are now on another floor in the same building that houses D.D.I. (Tech.). I am therefore sympathetic to D.D.I. (Tech.) in more ways than one. This sympathy, however, is confined only to the

security side of D.D.I. (Tech's) work.

It is virtually impossible to make head or tail of the Air Ministry where policy in this matter of u.f.o.s is concerned. It is patent that its left hand knoweth not what its right hand is doing. This is borne out by the contradictions and rebuttals that volley back and forth in successive official Air Ministry statements.

Whether this might be part of the policy itself, necessitated perhaps by security, I know not, but I do know that it is not good intelligence. After some nine years of admitted and denied interest in existent and then non-existent flying saucers, I am beginning to understand the pedantic wag who, in a well-known reference work, divided the word "intelligence" into the two categories, "common" and "military."

It would be to the advantage of us all to know what steps are being taken to resolve this mystery. It would perhaps be the *coup de grâce* to quite a high percentage of those who profess to be in fuller possession of facts than even the Air Ministry. It would, however, restore the faith of this country's "Ufologists" in Air Ministry "Bumbledom" if some representative of D.D.I. (Tech.) or, better still, the Secretary of State for Air, Mr. Nigel Birch, would at this late date put us in the picture where Air Ministry u.f.o. research is concerned.

Until some such statement or report is made public, I recommend readers to this pithy observation by Thoreau:

"Some circumstantial evidence is very strong, as when you find a trout in the milk."

UNANSWERED QUESTIONS

No. 2 . . . . The Mid-day "U" Blips

THE London *Sunday Dispatch* on November 17, 1954, had the sensational front-page headline, **STRANGE SIGHTS IN SKY BAFFLE WAR OFFICE.** *Six times in the previous few weeks* a strange pattern of "blips" had appeared on inland radar screens in Britain. Neither the War Office, which controls inland radar, nor the Air Ministry could say what they were.

The "blips" usually appeared about midday from nowhere, flying at about 12,000 ft. in an east-to-west direction.

They would first appear in a "U," or badly-shaped hairpin, formation. After a time they converged into parallel lines and then formed into "Z" formation, before disappearing.

The objects were invisible to the human eye, but on the radar screen their "blips" represented between 40 and 50 echoes. They covered a wide area in the sky.

A War Office spokesman said they always followed the same pattern. He said they had checked and found their sets were not faulty. All their sets in the area had picked the objects up.

The *Sunday Dispatch* reporter spoke to one man who had seen them, who affirmed he had been given very high-level orders to keep the utmost secrecy.

"And even if I did know what they are, I am too worried myself to say anything," he said.

The Air Ministry said there are many objects, such as meteorological balloons, experimental aircraft, carrier pigeons with metal rings on their legs, and even toy kites, which could form an image on a radar screen.

However, radar operators know all about those things, and none of them causes such similar patterns as produced on six different days by the "blips" in question.

WHAT WERE THESE UNIDENTIFIED OBJECTS? Both the War Office and the Air Ministry have remained strangely silent since these remarkable newspaper disclosures.

Were the u.f.o.s trying to signal us? *The letter Z looked at differently could read N. Could the message have been UN?* **UNITED NATIONS!**

AN OPEN LETTER TO SCIENTISTS

from

Charles A. Maney

Readers of "Flying Saucer Review" will recall the distinguished contribution by Charles A. Maney in the Jan.-Feb. issue. Professor Maney is head of the Department of Physics at the Defiance College, Defiance, U.S.A. In this open letter to scientists he makes a strong plea for more openmindedness among scientists in regard to u.f.o.s.

I CALL into question the prevailing practice of the much-vaunted style of thinking, universally known as the scientific approach. Not that the scientific approach to a problem is unsound. Far be it from that. Rather that the widely-accepted pattern of scientific thought as it is now practised is in the nature of a tradition. There are certain accepted categories of scientific endeavour, and scientists in the manner of their primitive forebears are dominated in their habits by their traditions. Among primitive peoples there is the adherence to traditional customs, blind acceptance of inherited beliefs. Among scientists it is the restriction of scientific thought to inherited categories of investigation, or what might be termed "proper" fields of scientific pursuit. In the interests of human progress it is of the utmost importance that the interests of science be widened.

In proportion as the knowledge of his environment has broadened and expanded, man's concept of the cosmos has also grown dimensionally. Early man's view of the cosmos was geocentric; as his knowledge grew and his outlook expanded he became heliocentric. The heliocentric attitude subsequently gave way to the galactic-centered universe. Finally, a little past the turn of the century, the galactic-centred cosmos gave way to a universe of galaxies, the boundaries of which are yet to be ascertained.

The gradual emergence of human understanding generally is a parallel process. Blind adherence to traditional customs and practices has served to advance mankind in the early stages of his struggle for existence. Traditions for the most part have in themselves the protective influences that have served throughout man's past experiences. It might be said that traditions are the accumulated wisdom of experiences, the values of which in many cases have been lost sight of in man's upward climb toward understanding. As the method of science has little by little supplemented the thought processes of man, tradition has been gradually replaced by the knowledge garnered through scientific procedure. In this connection a word of warning might be in order. There is danger that too much reliance be placed upon the findings resolved by limited scientific study of a problem. The truths inherent in traditional thought are not always susceptible to accurate evaluation through what might be appraised as exhaustive scientific investigation.

The widespread concept of science as knowledge based upon experiment in itself clearly points out the limitations of the scientific method. For there are experiments and experiments, and the circumstances under which controlled experimentations are carried out are limitless in their variations. The findings of science are therefore tentative in character, all of them. They should therefore be regarded as such.

The concept of man as the crown of creation has not yet been superseded by another concept in human thought. There has been very little acceptance of the concept of personality existent in other modes of matter and material environment different from those which obtain on this planet. Even on this planet, the earth, there are widely divergent embodiments of personality found wherever matter exists, on the earth's surface, within the ground, in the atmosphere, in the

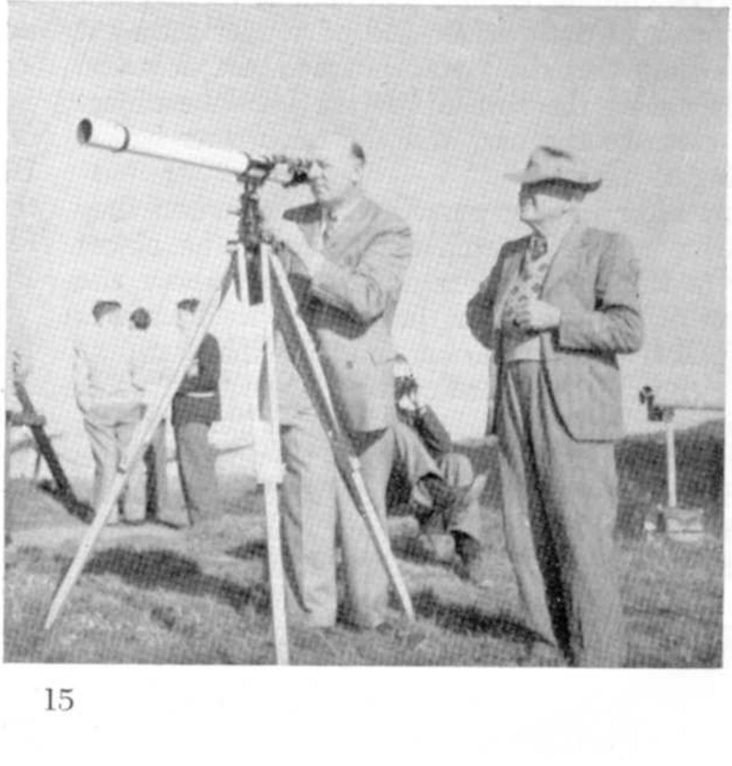
waters of the earth, in the subterranean depths of the deepest oceans, and within the numerous bodies themselves countless varieties and numbers of cell forms possessing individual existences. Indeed, life as we know it on this planet is everywhere in everything and practically limitless in its forms and varieties.

The geocentric view of the physical universe has long been superseded by more comprehensive pictures of reality. Man has had to gradually withdraw from an inflated concept of his importance within the physical scheme of things. This withdrawal has hardly been accompanied by a corresponding contraction of his ego. Paradoxically, instead of being deflated he has become inflated beyond degree. The rabid scientist believes that he can pull himself up by the bootstraps of the scientific method. He looks about him using the scientific gadgets he has constructed and believes that what his gadgets measure constitute the whole of all there is. Sober minds among the scientific group acknowledge the flimsy sketchiness of scientific findings.

True, in our devaluation of scientific method we must not undervalue the great blessings of science to humanity in the controls achieved over human environment resulting from scientific development. Science is so interwoven in the life of mankind, its boon to human progress so keenly realised that nothing save man's self-destruction by his own scientific gadgets can thwart its onward march.

But in spite of the glorious achievements of science and man's over-confident pride in his understanding and use of science, he is still hidebound by tradition. Like his primitive ancestor he must abide by his traditions, his traditions of categories for scientific investigation, and any new fields that suggest departure from them are ignored and in many cases considered non-existent.

I would plead for a little more openmindedness among the fraternities of scientific investigators. Refrain from ridicule of that which might sound preposterous, but which you have not personally investigated. In spite of obscuration by bewildering clouds of ridicule, prejudice, fanaticism, and political suppression of information, there may be found an impressive mass of observational evidence for the reality of the so-called unidentified flying objects or u.f.o.s now haunting the skies adjacent to this planet. The more deeply one delves into this sphere of investigation the more one becomes convinced of its potential significances. It would seem that the time is now at hand for the relaxing of the bands of restraint that prevent the disclosure of the accumulative factual material having to do with these sky visitors. *There are those who would welcome the opportunity to be permitted to present the case for the reality of these strange phenomena before assemblies of scientists.* At the present time the subject is still generally tabooed because of the disinclination of scientists as a class to be willing to disentangle themselves from their orthodoxy.



Harold H. Fulton, President, Civilian Saucer Intelligence (N.Z.), with his colleagues at their observation post on the 2nd International Flying Saucer Day in New Zealand.

SCANDINAVIAN SAUCER

Fabulous sighting repo

CHASED BY A FLYING SAUCER!

MR. TRYGVE JANSEN, a master-painter, was returning by car to his home at Ski, after having supervised work in Oslo.

He was accompanied by a lady, Mrs. Buflot, a neighbour to whom he was giving a lift.

Mr. Jansen had travelled this road daily for several years. It should be explained that the road runs for a considerable distance by the side of a long, narrow lake called Gjersjoen.

At Gjersjoen bridge they first observed the phenomenon. An object came with great speed from behind a small hill, made a swing out over the lake, and back to the road.

Jansen was keeping his eyes on the road, and therefore did not look closely at the object. He thought at first that it was caused by some kind of light-reflexes, or perhaps by a large bird.

After a time, however, he became aware that the light seemed to follow the car. It circled the car again and again, and occasionally made great side sweeps. Both driver and passenger soon got the feeling that they were pursued. Six or seven times during the run beside the lake the object was close to the car, and the occupants had a feeling of unrest.

Just after having passed the lake, when they were on a level stretch of the road, the object flew in front of the car and stopped above the centre of the road. Mr. Jansen felt as if he was compelled to stop the car, and he finally did so when the object started coming down towards it.

When it was straight in front of the car, the object stopped again and stood completely still. *Both occupants of the car had a distinct feeling of being scrutinised.* Suddenly, the object took off straight upwards, and then disappeared with great speed behind the car.

While the object was standing in front of the car, both witnesses felt a prickly sensation in their faces; it was as if they were exposed to a strong beam of some kind. And most curious of all, Mr. Jansen's watch, which had kept perfect time for years, stopped at that moment.

The watch later had to undergo a very expensive repair, and the watchmaker said that it had been exposed to a strong magnetic current.

When Mr. Jansen arrived at his home, his wife came running out and asked him if he had bought a new car.

" No," said Mr. Jansen, " why do you think so?"

" Well, see for yourself," said his wife, pointing to the vehicle.

The car, which had been of a dull beige colour, was now shiny, and the colour more nearly green.

There were many witnesses to this change of colour, and they all saw it before Mr. Jansen or Mrs. Buflot had said a word about their adventure. The next day the car had resumed its normal colour.

The Jansens had a party that evening, but Mr. Jansen could not manage to swallow the least bit of food. He wasn't exactly ill, but felt unwell. His skin was still prickly, as if he had been sitting too long before an ultra-violet lamp. He did not feel normal again before the next evening. Mrs. Buflot had exactly the same experience.

Both witnesses had ample opportunity to study the saucer closely, and they say that it looked like a shining disc with wings. The disc seemed to rotate, and on the top it had what they described as a kind of cockpit. The light that emanated from the saucer was quite strong, and of a greenish-white colour. It often seemed to come in waves and at times lit up the whole forest.

Carl Olsen

& S. AMERICAN CIGARS

s from two continents

HAVE GIANTS LANDED ON CORDILLERAS?

THE inhabitants of the desolate region of Puna Atacama, Argentina (approximately 200 kilometres west of Salta), situated on the heights of the Cordilleras, near the Chilean frontier, corroborate the declarations made to the Press a few days before by various persons, to the effect that there is evidence indicating the presence of strange beings on the snowy caps of the Macon, a mountain which rises to a height of 6,700 metres.

The witnesses said that they had seen tracks, human-like in characteristics, of giant proportions, not only in the frozen sands of the Macon, but also in the snow on the pampas where they abode.

These tracks appeared for the first time approximately one year ago and coincided with a colossal commotion on one of the sides of the mountain, which made people think that some aerial object had collided with the mountain. The singular phenomena was never investigated, but some persons affirmed that the object which hit the mountain was some kind of giant airship of a strange form like a Havana cigar.

Now, a few weeks after having seen *flying cigars* in the skies over Salar de Guisare, local inhabitants have again seen the strange tracks and *these facts have given rise to the possibility that extra-terrestrial beings are landing on the planet earth!*

It is to be noted that due to the vast extension of snowy pampas on the heights of the Atacama, the place is ideal for such landings of airships of gigantic proportions, and may well indeed be related to the declaration of the residents of the region, who affirm that they have seen flying over the region strange ships whose length were calculated at 300 metres!

The National Gendarmes supplied the newspapers with some photographs showing the passage of the strange craft in the skies over Salta and these were similar to those seen in other parts of the world.

Subsequently, evidence came to light indicating the presence of strange beings near Puna Saltena on the Macon mountain.

Informants declared that on occasions they have heard, with great clarity, strange cries resounding during the time of the setting sun and especially when the creeks began to freeze at nightfall.

In addition, people have said that, among the crags where the condors and eagles make their abodes, they have found quantities of these birds dead and partially destroyed, and their nests ravaged. *The witnesses also said that in all the cases, near or around the nests they have seen the giant human-like tracks which cannot be attributed to bears, as was thought in the beginning.*

All the witnesses state that these details have been known for some time and undoubtedly indicate the presence of strange visitors in the region. They have, however, maintained a strict reserve on the matter for fear of being ridiculed, but as the well-known geologist Spitch has now reported seeing the strange tracks also, they have now come forward with their story.

Horacio Gonzalez Ganteaume

ADAMSKI—A reasoned support

by John Lade

GEORGE ADAMSKI'S book, *Flying Saucers Have Landed* (with Desmond Leslie as joint author upon the historical and speculative aspects) described his encounter with a man from Venus and was published in England by T. Werner Laurie Ltd., in 1953. It was well reviewed by *The Observer* and discussed on television. Several people whom I asked were ready to admit the story true.

With *Inside The Space Ships,* first published by Abelard-Schuman, Inc., New York, in 1955 and now in England by Arco Publishers and Neville Spearman, it is quite different. So far, I have seen very few reviews and there appears to be reserved judgment upon the book; however, if one admits the first account, it is difficult to imagine a sequel less out of the ordinary. Evidently, it is easier to accept the "man from Venus" than his background—a situation not unfamiliar to parents in this world!

Will Not To Believe

In my London bookshop I asked the lady assistant what she thought of *Inside The Space Ships.* "I don't believe it," she said, "but perhaps that is because I do not want to." Likewise, my sister-in-law refuses to consider the subject of flying saucers, fearing the rearrangement of her concepts that might become necessary. This attitude is a common one, especially in England where people are conservative and traditional in outlook (whatever their political persuasion).

In other countries, other attitudes prevail: in Norway I have met normal businessmen who are personally interested and convinced of the present reality of interplanetary travel—as is natural among a race of explorers; several young Irishmen are interested—they, too, are of a pioneer race; some Frenchmen—with their perspicacity and scientific acuteness—are investigating; Germans—with their technical imagination; forward-looking Americans; there are, doubtless, others. But in England the majority of those expressing interest (as distinct from readiness to admit possibilities) are spiritualists, believers in the occult and other enthusiasts for the unconventional.

A need appears, therefore, that those who are themselves conventional and yet believe Adamski should speak in his support. Why in support of Adamski, rather than the subject in general? For two reasons: firstly, because he is one who publicly claims acquaintance with individuals from other planets; secondly, because he is attacked, whereas the subject itself is dismissed or ignored. In brief, *Inside The Space Ships* can only be accepted or rejected; if rejected, the integrity of the story is such that the author must be accused of imagination. Indeed, it is said that he wrote a somewhat similar tale before, as fiction. If that be so (and I have not read it), I think it is covered by his statement on page 161 of the book, following a description of the moon's surface inspected at close range: "Little of what I was seeing was strange to me, because for years I had been thinking and talking about it in much this way." The lookout who sights a sea serpent may be pardonably disbelieved, if he said at breakfast he had a hunch they were around; but space people might well contact Adamski, rather than the next man, if his guess had been nearest the mark.

Life on Other Planets

There are those who argue, metaphysically, that we see what we believe. While not attempting to dispute this, I urge anyone using it for the purpose of discrediting Adamski to read some of the various books about flying saucers, whose authors have taken the trouble to gather historical references and newspaper cuttings (I, myself, have a few) about people who saw things they did not expect—unknown things in the air, of which the appearance and behaviour in many instances resemble those photographed by Adamski and others, as well as the descriptions of what are officially termed unidentified flying objects.

In our country all these things may be officially classed among hallucinations, because it is not

publicly accepted that there are extra-terrestrial beings who could have constructed any such craft, nor that any real craft could perform as they appear to do. Yet, Sir William Herschel (1738-1822), first president of the Astronomical Society, is said to have assumed all the planets to be inhabited: it is modern astronomers, using spectroscope and thermocouple, who declare that planetary conditions in our system would not support human life.

Would those instruments give a favourable report if directed upon the earth from afar? There may be harmful gases and little oxygen apparent at the light-reflecting level in the earth's atmosphere; moreover, temperatures vary between unbearable extremes of cold and heat as altitude increases.

Mounting Proof

The evidence that man could not inhabit other planets is not convincing enough to defeat the accumulating proof that he already comes thence. Even though atmospheric conditions should fall outside the wide variations experienced on earth, human lungs—which are at home in a bath of air, such as the cyclist encounters when coasting downhill, and in the rarefied atmosphere of all but the highest mountain peaks—are probably capable of being acclimatised to great changes of condition, as the body is with temperatures. But why man, rather than insects or creatures of unknown character? Surely, the probability is that the most intelligent form of creation on earth, which is a planet of average size in the solar system of a very ordinary sun, will be found upon other planets and in solar systems of a comparable nature.

Our visitors (if we accept their existence) may be assumed to be more advanced technically than we are, because we are not yet capable of making the journey. If so, we must expect their techniques to be outside our experience. I remember my mother telling me of a discussion in her childhood home among guests of her father, who was a judge; the subject was the possibility that man would one day be able to fly and the majority verdict was against. One wonders what such a company, assembled about 1890, would have made of a jet plane streaking overhead: nevertheless, some of them lived to see it.

Observing the acceleration of scientific discovery during the present century, it is reasonable to prophesy that before it ends we shall be able to fly comfortably and silently at speeds unapproachable today, powered by means still in the experimental stage. Such means will involve gravitational force. What may be the first published description of experiments in this direction has appeared in the May, 1956, monthly issue of the Swiss (English language) aviation review, *Interavia*; it is astonishing to learn, not only that such experiments have been developing for more than a generation—ultimately going back to 1916 when, in Einstein's general theory of relativity, the law of gravitation was first mathematically formulated as a field theory, but also that "electro-gravitics" can now propel metal discs through the air and cause objects to "loft away contra-gravitationally."

There can no longer be grounds for incredulity at the performance of flying saucers, but it may still be difficult to accept the contention that they are made and flown by human beings from other planets. One asks why—if such exist and are not hostile—do they not make themselves known widely and forthwith? Why are they so coy and elusive? There may be several reasons: the sudden and irrefutable appearance, on a large scale, of beings of superior accomplishment could throw governmental authority into confusion, upset values on stock exchanges and generally provoke worldwide resentment—not least on the part of religious denominations faced with the necessity for some fast explaining.

A Further Reason

Perhaps more imperative than the rest, a reason given in Adamski's book bears examination: if these advanced types of flying machines made public landings, would they not be seized in order to copy them as quickly as possible—lest some potentially hostile nation should do so first —and mount arms upon them? I think that would be done and this, alone, is sufficient reason for space travellers to introduce us gradually and circumspectly to the fact that we are not alone in the universe, in the hope that on earth the human race will unite—not in hostility to an invader, but in welcome to our guests—as an earnest of good behaviour when we, ourselves, voyage among the planets.

THIS AMAZING UNIVERSE

by

Arthur Constance

Author of " The Glazier "

METALS, gases and liquids react experimentally in accordance with known laws. I use the word " known " to mean that such laws are known to us—not with any implication that we know much about them. Scientists know that if they do this that or the other, certain things happen—that is the extent of their knowledge, for they have little or no knowledge of *why* anything happens in any particular instance.

Scientists know that if they want to make uranium metal they must take UF_4, mix it with high purity magnesium metal placed in containers, and must heat it to the point where a reduction reaction takes place. All that is as Greek to me as it probably is to you. I am simply pointing out that there is a reduction-reaction point in this case, and that scientific big-heads know it. They know all kinds of things like that. They know the breaking-points of metals, the boiling-points of liquids, the freezing-points of liquids. They know just exactly how and when some devilish device or other could explode and blast hordes of innocent humans into other dimensions, provided they did this, that or the other with associated devices.

Imprisoned

They know all about chain-reactions in the sense that they are chained to them—but not in any sense of intellectual freedom, so that they can play around with them. For many years past scientists have been like dare-devil children, sticking their heads between statistical railings. Their heads are now stuck, so that they cannot withdraw them. There they are, with their heads rigidly gripped between rigid formulæ and their backsides thrust out behind them. They have mastered nuclear fission in exactly that sense—like children imprisoned in railings—and now they can't get through to freedom or back out to it. With swollen heads they now have time to reflect on the rigidity of nature's laws.

Such laws are obviously fixed and immovable regarding our physical world. If the universe were entirely physical, man himself (to vary my metaphor slightly) would be chained to the railings more effectively than the suffragettes were around 1908 when they used the idea to attract attention to themselves and obtain votes for women. But if the universe *were* entirely physical there would be no cosmic policemen to hack through the statistical railings and free man from his present frightful predicament. There would be no hacksaws and no keys to the padlocks.

Other Dimensions

But the world—the entire cosmos—is not solely or even mainly physical. I believe there are vastly more policemen with hacksaws and keys than there are suffragettes. In plain English, I believe that the u.f.o.s come from other dimensions and that those who control them are non-physical beings. I may be pleading a cause more desperate and futile than votes for women, but at this moment I simply will not be chased by crowds of yelling sceptics who want to get me up a lamp-post and ask me what I mean by " non-physical." I evade them, and get back on to my soap-box.

I have said that scientists know the breaking-points of metals, but I insist that they do not know the breaking-points of men, and that they never will. I have said that they know the boiling-points and freezing-points of liquids, but I insist that they are utterly incompetent to know the boiling- and freezing-points of human beings: instanced in diplomatic and industrial relationships. I am not ignorant of the claims made by weird creatures called politicians and psychiatrists to the effect that they can tell us how some such conglomeration as the Suez crisis may explode, or what to do when a small group of communists controlling a trade union bring out a

few tens of thousands of workers who have never taken any interest in voting, and threaten to paralyse the life of any particular community. I am fully aware that the columnists of our national newspapers think they know all the diplomatic and industrial boiling- and freezing-points as exactly as if they had them formulated in statistical or technical tables. But it is obvious that human reactions are unpredictable, and in this case I am all for the obvious.

Believing as I do that this physical world is only the shadow or similitude of a very real and substantial world of spirit, and that such a spirit world is but one phase or dimension of infinite spiritual systems, more solid, substantial and thick (I *mean* " thick "—whatever " thick " means) —I am sure that scientists, politicians, psychiatrists, in fact all the world's big-heads, are completely ignorant of the laws which govern the spiritual cosmos, and that they are utterly incompetent to determine the data of the human spirit.

I believe that the world's big-heads are so completely incompetent to determine the data of the human spirit that we are in imminent danger of ceasing to be physical beings—all of us—and of finding ourselves in the not distant future truly and literally spiritual beings, subject to laws of which we are now almost completely ignorant—carrying on our strange existences in some other dimension or compendium of dimensions.

Cosmic Laws

That is one of the reasons—perhaps the main reason—why I have been interested in inexplicable phenomena for nearly 40 years. I want to know something of the laws governing the spiritual cosmos, into which (whatever " into which " means) I shall presently pass, with *you* and *you* and *you* and in fact all my readers and humans now living out physical existences on this spinning planet.

I suspect that there are far more important considerations in the spiritual cosmos than such physical problems as the imminence of a Third World War, or the demands of lorry-drivers or coal-diggers for more money to spend on pools and cinemas. (To arrest any hands reaching for brickbats I must point out that I have said nothing for or against pools and cinemas—merely mentioned them in passing.) When I say " important considerations " I have in mind countless breaking-, boiling- and freezing-points in the lives of untold millions of ordinary, commonplace humans. In other words, I sincerely believe that beings in other dimensions are far more concerned with human beings in their day-to-day lives (in their aspirations, frustrations and agonies) than with what we call " world events."

Man's Belief

I state it as a fact, beyond question or argument, and one which is not the monopoly of any sect or creed or philosophy, *that we all die.* Whether we are blasted out of this time-space dimension or pass peacefully out of it in our beds, we have to leave it behind us—whatever " behind " means. And for this tremendous reason: I believe that beings in other dimensions—dimensions of the spiritual cosmos—may regard a man's belief (his attitude to the cosmos) as of far greater importance than the time of his death or the way of his death.

I believe that a *prima facie* case has been made out for the non-physical nature of the beings who manipulate the u.f.o.s. Anyone who takes the trouble to examine the evidence must be compelled to that conclusion. Non-physical. I hesitate to go beyond that term, but I am absolutely convinced that it is justified. Who or what the non-physical beings are has not yet been proven. I believe it has been indicated—but not proven.

One thing I know, and that is that never in the long history of mankind have any happenings been of greater significance and importance than these: these swift transits of luminous things, or shapes, or whatever they are, across our skies. Anyone who feels that the question of the existence or non-existence of beings from other worlds or dimensions is not of paramount importance should get someone to crack him on the skull with a hefty sledge-hammer—for if he thinks the u.f.o. nut need not be cracked, then his own should be. Any human with a kernel of brains in his head and a star-atlas in his hands must surely appreciate the appalling, gargantuan importance of the question, " Are beings on other worlds or in other dimensions concerned with us?"

It may well be that all our destinies, and the destiny of this wheeling world itself, will be determined by the answer to that question.

Why are people apathetic regarding it? Why are many so difficult to convince?

I think the answer to that one lies in the nature of conviction.

How is any man or woman convinced of the truth of *anything*—or even led to examine some concept or proposition beyond his or her experience?

Waveney Girvan has rightly indicated in his *Flying Saucers and Commonsense* that it is a matter of "the will to believe" and "the will not to believe." But the problem goes deeper. In what circumstances does a person's "will not to believe" change to a "will to believe"? There is surely a point of conviction—just as there is a breaking-point in any human when he can stand no more suffering or adversity; or a boiling-point in a nation when the simmering pot of international disputation releases its contents in a flood of flaming, searing devastation; or a freezing-point in some marital relationship when the last vestige of warmth passes out of a home. Not that any of these "points" or limits are predictable scientifically or classifiable. They are ultimately as unanalysable as the spirit of man, and as variable. But they exist, even as points of conviction exist.

Point of Conviction

Is it possible to determine an average point of conviction? I am afraid it can only be fixed approximately and within very wide limits.

That is the trouble—that people's conviction-points vary so considerably. You may find yourself convinced that this or that is true—despite the fact that you have previously held an opposite opinion—after a superficial case has been presented: a mere synopsis of what might be said. Your next-door neighbour, however, may need yards of argument and masses of figures to be convinced. The conviction-points of the pair of you are widely separated in any reading of your reactions.

Numbers of people are so acclimatised to our physical world that any mention of a non-physical one is like interpolating a few words of Hindustani into a sentence spoken to a dustman. He may, of course, by a strange coincidence, produce a Hindustani text-book from his pocket, flip over the pages, and explain your interpolated words to you (if a dustman); or produce a tract and offer it to you (if a person to whom you had mentioned a non-physical word). But in neither case would there be likelihood of real understanding.

We will dismiss such exceptional cases and consider average human beings. As you go about your daily routine—to or from business, or shopping, or in any way in which you contact people—you may mention u.f.o.s to twenty people and find only two or three willing to be convinced. "Willing to be" *should* imply that their conviction-points are low in the scale. Apparently you do not need to present many facts, or much detailed argument, before they accept the proposition that a non-physical cosmos exists and that the u.f.o.s are manifestations of it, emerging from and receding into it.

But such persons' low conviction-readings—the fact that it is fairly easy to convince them—may mean that conviction has very little value in their cases. The registering needle did not need much energy to move it—but the value-reading is also low.

On the other hand, people whose conviction-points are high may be worth-while converts. You may have to use an enormous amount of energy to send the needle up to the right reading, but once it gets there it registers a high value. The person has a far more comprehensive understanding of what you have been talking about.

We speak of the "weight of evidence"—as though evidence could be assessed in quantities. But what will be sufficient "weight" for one person is mere gossamer for another. Some people's minds are so conditioned to our physical world that you might pile a thousand tons of u.f.o. facts upon them, and they would simply shake their heads and your arguments would fall to the ground.

Normality

The vast majority of people are prepared to accept ideas and facts which fit into their conceptions of normality. They suspect at once the concepts and data which seem to *them* to be "abnormal."

Take any such typical case. You tell him that you have seen an oak-tree twice the size of a normal one. He immediately suspects falsehood or that you are pulling his leg. To convince him you would need to take him along to the tree, so that he could estimate its size for himself. Yet the mere statement that a tree is larger or smaller

means nothing in itself—he has suspected your veracity solely because he has had experience of oak-trees of what he calls a "normal" size.

What *is* normality of size?

It is a matter for amazement, not placid acceptance. The fantastic, almost incredible fact is the ordinary tree and its normality. How is it possible that all trees of a certain kind should come from seeds which have come from seeds contained microscopically within previous seeds (and so on, back through untold ages) and should grow to somewhere around the average size of their kind *and not go on growing to become vastly larger trees*? Why are palm trees a certain average size and pine trees a very different average size?

Master Plan

Take an acorn and look at it, and try to grasp the fact that it can become a tree which can bear acorns, which can bear similar acorns, and so on again and again and again for countless centuries: *and that this acorn in your hand contains the master plan which will limit the average size of all future oak trees for ever.*

As with trees, so with flowers, insects, birds, animals, and human beings. Within each human spermatozoa—each of the millions which struggle onwards towards the ovum at the time of conception—is a blueprint which limits the size of the human being to be born, and limits the size of human beings contained within *his* spermatozoas and so on *ad infinitum*. That is what I mean by the amazing miracle of normality, in respect of size.

I am not staggered by the abnormal but by the normal.

I am not unduly impressed by the recorded fact that the tallest man of all time was Robert Wadlow, born an 8½-lb. baby at Alton, Illinois, U.S.A., in 1918, who grew to be 8 feet 9½ inches tall and weighed 35 stone. Nor am I staggered by the details available regarding such men of substance as Miles Darden, who was born in North Carolina, U.S.A., in 1798, and who attained a weight of over 1,000 lb.—actually 71 stone 6 lb. —before he sank into his grave (or thudded into it) in Henderson County, Tennessee, in 1857.

Nor does my jaw drop when I read of cases of arrested development—of dwarfs like Walter Boehning, who died at Delmenhorst, Germany, only last year, having reached no higher towards heaven than a mere 20½ inches from the soles of his feet.

The infinitely-recurrent fact which poleaxes me is that there are not *thousands* of giants around us everywhere, and *battalions* of pygmies. Surely we might reasonably expect—out of the thousands of millions of humans who have been reproducing humans (and so on, repeatedly) for countless centuries—a small percentage of a few thousand *really* monstrous ones? If I heard of a child who went on growing—it would probably be somewhere in New Orleans or Alabama—and growing and growing, and who did not stop growing, until he had attained the bulk of the Empire State Building and was being fed by fire brigades with hosepipes and was still putting on weight, I should not find it incredible. For, miracle though such growth would seem in that one instance, it would not be comparable with the multiple miracle of growth-restraint in countless millions of humans of normal size.

As with size, so with shapes of all kinds, and other physical features of microbes, insects, and all living creatures up to man.

The staggering fact is normality.

Nothing Impossible

That is why my conviction-point is zero. Nothing that anyone could possibly tell me could possibly seem impossible in itself.

This does not mean that I am credulous. The world's credulous folk—and what gullible goons they are!—are the people who will believe nothing unless it agrees with their own conceptions of normality. For the truth is that normality is no more than the consensus of individual experiences as recorded in the consciousness of any individual. There are as many normalities as there are individuals—and there we have the reason why every individual has his own conviction-point.

No-one would be such a fool as to enter a shop, look at any of the articles displayed—toothbrushes, ties or timepieces, or what have you—and walk out believing that he had seen the lot: that in that one shop were displayed the only types of toothbrushes, ties or timepieces in existence. He would ridicule any such suggestion, saying "There are other shops."

And there are millions of other worlds than our own.

From an Astronomer's Notebook

by W. Schroeder

November

2	New Moon.
3	Algol Minimum, 7 a.m.
4	Moon in conjunction with Saturn.
6	Algol Minimum, 3 a.m.
9	Moon in Apogee.
	Algol Minimum, midnight.
10	Moon: First Quarter.
11	Algol Minimum, 9 p.m.
12	Mercury in Superior Conjunction.
13	Moon in conjunction with Mars.
13-15	Meteors of the Leonid Shower, very swift.
14	Algol Minimum, 6 p.m.
18	Venus near Spica.
	Full Moon.
	Total eclipse of the Moon, 6 a.m.
21	Moon in Perigee.
25	Moon in Last Quarter.
26	Algol Minimum, 5 a.m.
27	Saturn in conjunction with Sun.
	Moon near Jupiter.
29	Moon near Venus.
	Algol Minimum, 2 a.m.

December

1	Algol Minimum, 11 p.m.
2	New Moon.
	Partial Eclipse of the Sun.
4	Algol Minimum, 8 p.m.
7	Moon in Apogee.
	Algol Minimum, 4 p.m.
10	Moon: First Quarter.
10-12	Meteors of the Geminid Shower, fairly numerous, white.
11	Moon near Mars.
16	Algol Minimum, 7 a.m.
17	Full Moon.
19	Moon in Perigee.
	Algol Minimum, 4 a.m.
21	Winter Solstice, Shortest Day.
	Saturn near Antares.
22	Algol Minimum, 1 a.m.
24	Moon near Jupiter.
	Moon: Last Quarter.
	Algol Minimum, 10 p.m.
25	Mercury in Greatest Eastern Elongation.
26	Venus near Antares and Saturn.
27	Algol Minimum, 6 p.m.
29	Moon near Saturn and Venus.

Sun, Moon and Planets

The Sun is gradually approaching the more southerly parts of the ecliptic, and the length of the day decreases accordingly. On November 1 the length of the day, that is the time during which the Sun is above the horizon for any place in the latitude of London, is still 9 hours and 40 minutes. By December 1 this is reduced to 8 hours 7 minutes, and on December 21, the shortest day of the year, daylight lasts only for 7 hours 45 minutes, increasing to 8 hours by the end of the year.

The Moon provides us with another heavenly spectacle: In the early-morning hours of November 18 she will be totally eclipsed for about 1 hour and 20 minutes. The times and her path through the Earth's shadow are shown on Fig. 1, the area of the sky represented being part of the constellation Taurus.*

* The diagram is an adaptation of an illustration from the author's book *Practical Astronomy* (published by T. Werner Laurie Ltd.) where this particular eclipse is given as an example for the calculation of eclipses by a method which makes no use of mathematics.

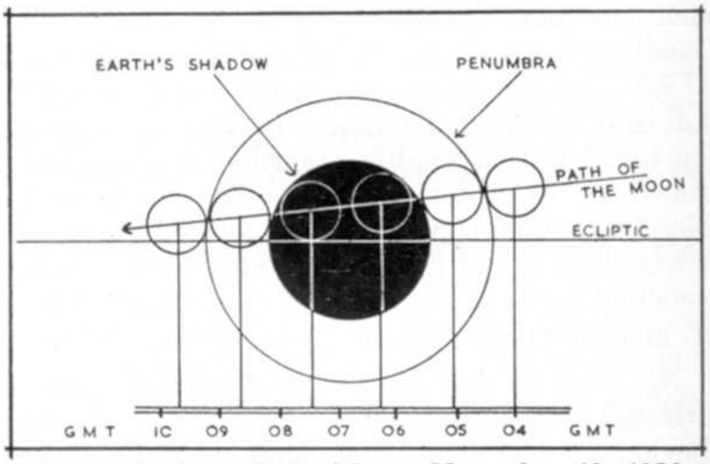


Fig. 1. Eclipse of the Moon, November 18, 1956.

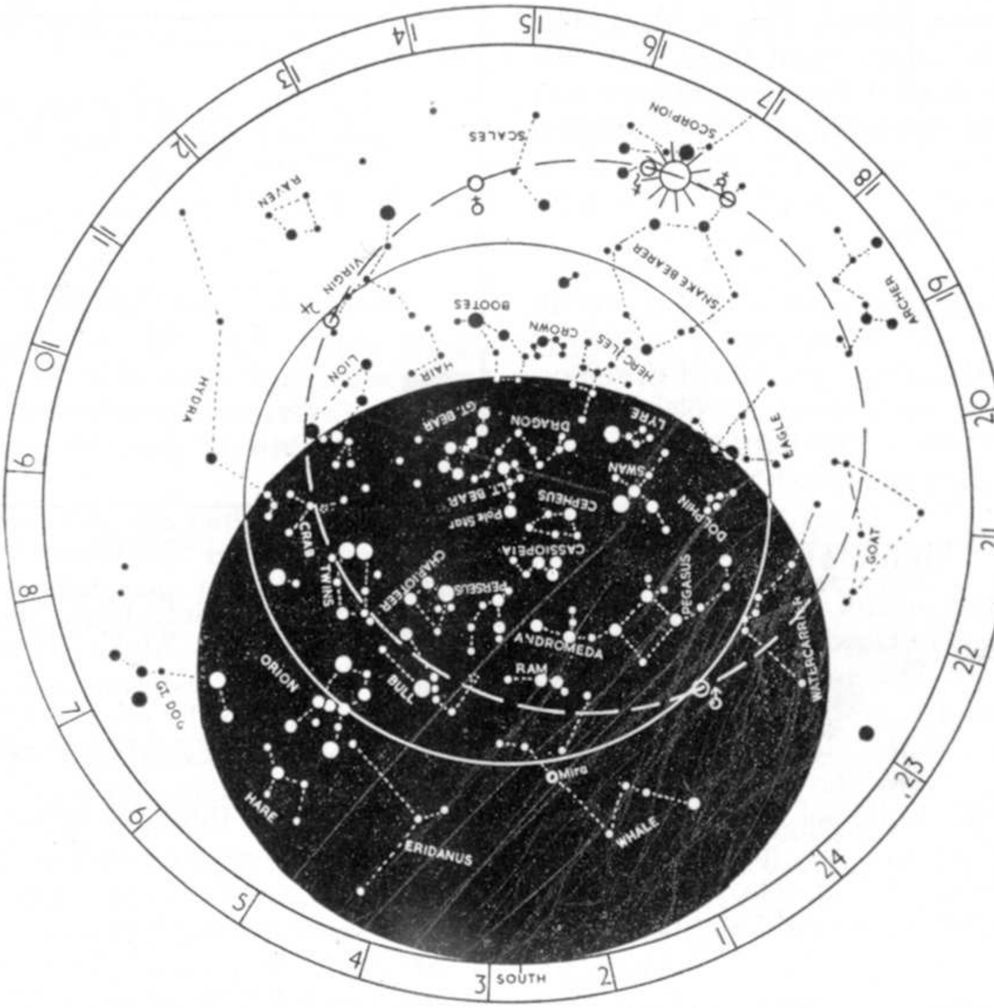


Fig. 2. The Night Sky on December 1, 10 p.m.

Observers in Central America will be able to observe also the occultation of the two little stars 13 and 14 Tauri at about 0900 hours G.M.T. on the same day. The Moon passes right in front of these stars and although they are rather faint the glare of the Full Moon will not blot them out, as it normally does, as the Moon is not yet fully illuminated by that time, being still situated in the half-shadow of the Earth.

Mars is the only planet visible in the evening sky and, having passed its opposition in September, it is gradually diminishing in brightness. As the planet is situated in a field of very faint stars, it will remain a prominent object for some time.

Venus and Jupiter rise only a few hours before sunrise, and Mercury and Saturn are too near the Sun to be observable.

The Fixed Stars

The stars visible in the night sky during November and December already indicate that the wintry season has come. The Winter Constellations, Orion, the Twins, and the two Dogs, appear over the eastern horizon, and with them the most spectacular part of the sky comes into view once again. (See Fig. 2.)

In the south we can see the rather unimpressive constellation Cetus (The Whale) with the remarkable star Mira, which at times shines as a star of second magnitude, and a few months later becomes altogether invisible, only to reappear some time later.

Almost overhead we find Perseus, and here is another variable star, with rather

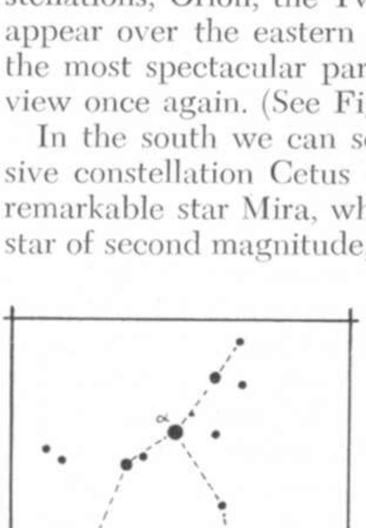


Fig. 3. The Variable Star Algol in Perseus.

a different behaviour, though. This is Algol (The Devil). For over two days Algol shines as a star of magnitude 2.5 until it becomes dimmer and dimmer, and after four hours it has reached magnitude 3.5. The minimum lasts only about half an hour, and after another four hours Algol shines again with its full brightness. (Fig. 3.)

The stars of the summer make their final departure, only the Eagle remains visible for an hour or two after sunset in the west. Deep in the south we can see the many faint stars of Eridanus, and the Milky Way stretches like a silvery band from the south-eastern to the north-western horizon, passing right overhead.

Meteors

One of the richest meteor showers of the year, the Geminids, is due in December. The maximum will occur between December 10 and 12, but early and late members of this stream appear between the 8th and the 14th of the month. During the last few days the light of the Moon, then nearing Full, will be troublesome, but observing conditions will be quite favourable before. The meteors of this shower are rather slow and frequently leave bright streaks behind them.

The Constellation of the Month

Taurus (The Bull) is a constellation which was known to the Ancients already. The Greeks saw in it the Bull into which Zeus changed himself when he carried off Europa, the beautiful daughter of the King of Phoenicia.

The Pleiades and the Hyades, both parts of this constellation, are such remarkable asterisms that it is only natural that they were noted when astronomy was still a very young science.

Of the 600 stars which make up the cluster of the Pleiades, only six or seven are visible to the naked eye, and how dainty they look! But each of them is at least 800 times the size of our Sun, burning with a fierce heat, many times the temperature of the Sun. The brightest star of this little group is Eta Tauri (Alcyone).

Just east and slightly south of the Pleiades is another cluster of stars, the Hyades. The stars of this group are more widely spaced, but only from our viewpoint, due to the fact that the Hyades are only at one-third of the distance of the Pleiades. The stars of this cluster are even larger than those of the Pleiades, but while the stars of

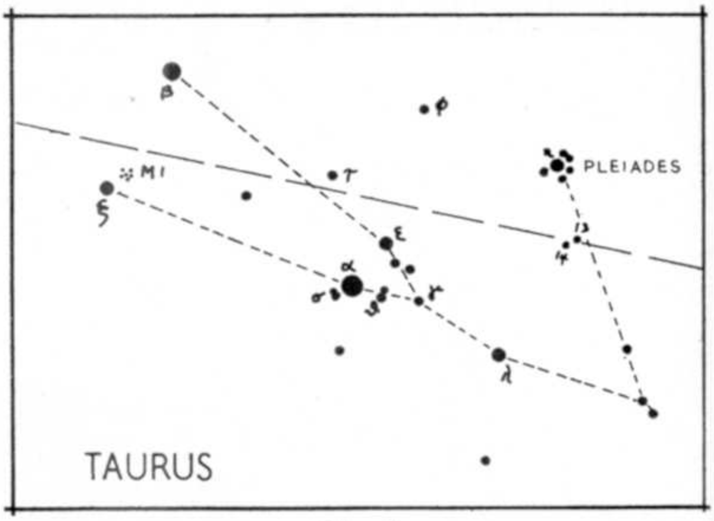


Fig. 4.

that cluster are mainly blue, the stars of the Hyades are yellow. Alpha Tauri (Aldebaran), which is the brightest star in the constellation, does not belong to the cluster, although it seems to be right in the middle of it. Aldebaran is only 53 light years distant, while the stars of the cluster are about 130 light years away.

Just west of Alpha is the double star Theta. The naked eye can clearly see the two components, both of magnitude 4, at a distance of 5′ 30″ from each other. The southernmost of these is greenish in colour, while the other is pure white.

On the other side of Aldebaran is another double star, Sigma, the components of which are even more widely separated (7′), but they also are fainter, both being of magnitude 5.

Phi Tauri can be observed as a double only with the aid of binoculars, magnitudes 5 and 8, separation 50″, and the same applies to Tau Tauri, magnitudes 4 and 7, separation 63″. The colour contrast between these two is remarkable, the brighter of these is white, and the fainter star is bluish.

Lambda Tauri is a variable star of the same type as Algol, its brightness varies between magnitudes 3.4 and 4.3, with a period of 3 days and 23 hours.

Finally there is M 1, the " Crab Nebula," which can also be seen in binoculars. It was discovered in 1731, and in 1758 the astronomer Messier made it the first entry in his catalogue of clusters and nebulæ. This nebula is probably the remainder of a star which exploded in the year 1056, an occurrence which was recorded in ancient Chinese annals.

PANORAMA spotlights space events

MR. CEDRIC ALLINGHAM

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW much regrets to announce that Mr. Cedric Allingham passed away in a sanatorium in Switzerland early this year. He had been seriously ill with tuberculosis for some time.

Mr. Allingham was the author of the book, "Flying Saucer From Mars," in which he claimed to have met a Martian who landed from a flying saucer on February 18, near Lossiemouth, Scotland.

2nd INTERNATIONAL FLYING SAUCER SIGHTING DAY

Those associated with FLYING SAUCER REVIEW who watched the skies from Hampstead Observatory, London, on June 30, were scattered throughout Europe when the 2nd International Flying Saucer Sighting Day took place on September 8. Mr. Desmond Leslie was in Ireland and Dr. Bernard Finch was in the South of France.

However, Mr. Derek Dempster and your Editor went up to Hampstead Heath. There, they made contact with the Yeti Club, who had driven up specially from Purley for the occasion. The members of the Yeti Club go on periodic climbing expeditions in all parts of the British Isles, and one of their interests is flying saucers. They had brought some equipment with them from Purley, including a telescope. However, they were unfortunate in not being able to net a saucer that day.

The first British sighting of interest for September 8 came in from Mr. Charles Longcroft, of London, who was out with a large party sky-watching at Boxhill, Surrey. All the afternoon they saw nothing. It was not until they were back at Boxhill Railway Station, about to return to London, that success came their way. At 8.44 p.m. they observed a round, scintillating object in the heavens. They noticed that this disc flickered the whole time, and changed its colour perpetually from white to red, from red to white, from white to green, and from green to white.

They observed the saucer for seven minutes, when it became obscured by cloud cover. However, it later reappeared at about 9.20 p.m. By that time some of the party had returned to London, and only a few waited for the cloud to pass, and bring the object into view again.

The saucer was seen not only by members of Mr. Longcraft's party, but by passengers in the station car park and the porter.

Many other reports have been received, including overseas ones. These are being examined by FLYING SAUCER REVIEW'S research department. It has been decided, as this issue already contains plenty of sighting reports on other pages, not to comment further on September 8, beyond stating that it has proved once again that every day somewhere on this planet a saucer is seen in our skies!

The Editor wishes to warmly thank saucer research groups and the Press throughout the world for the publicity given to the two I.F.S.S.D.s sponsored by "Flying Saucer Review" this year, and for their fine co-operation in sending on sighting reports to London.

YOUR CHANCE TO HEAR SPACEMEN

Everyone in Britain is discussing the extraordinary tape recordings which have been played at Caxton Hall, London, and elsewhere. They are claimed to have been made directly by spacemen.

One of the tapes makes the fabulous forecast that on the night of November 7 flying saucer occupants will attempt to send a message to earth.

The tape says that they will come down to 10,000 ft. over Los Angeles, California. Local radio stations are being asked to go off the air for two minutes at 10.30 p.m. (local standard time).

During the radio silence the space visitors will speak. *Already one Californian radio station—KATY, San Luis Obispo—has agreed to clear its carrier to allow the visitors to come in!*

Other radio stations may follow this lead, and possibly a coast-to-coast hook-up may be arranged, allowing residents of the entire United States and, indeed, of the whole world to listen to this momentous message?

Readers in Britain are reminded of the differences in time with California. 10.30 p.m. (local standard time) in California on November 7 would be 6.30 a.m. (G.M.T.) on November 8 in Britain.

Stn. KATY is on 1340 KC 250 Watts.

"Flying Saucer Review" does not in any way vouch for the authenticity of these tape recordings. It neither accepts nor rejects them, and awaits the result with interest.

JAPANESE SAUCER RESEARCH GROUP

A Flying Saucer Research Council has just been formed in Japan. The Council has already published the first number of its own newspaper called *Spaceship*.

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW is liaisoning with Yusuke Matsumura, of the Flying Saucer Study Group, Isogo P.O. Box 3, Yokohama.

ANOTHER AUSTRALIAN SAUCER GROUP

The Queensland Flying Saucer Research Bureau has just been formed. They wish to exchange information with other groups throughout the world. The name and address of their Secretary is C. A. Lehmann, 72, Bowen St., Windsor, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.

FLYING SAUCERS AND THE YOUNGER GENERATION

Mr. Macdonald Hastings has contributed a very fair and interesting series of three weekly articles on flying saucers to the Hulton publication *Eagle*. This is a colourful adventure paper for the younger generation, published in Britain.

Both the Editor of *Eagle* and Mr. Macdonald Hastings are to be congratulated on the way they have presented this very important subject to British youth.

BIG NAMES BACK SAUCER RESEARCH GROUP

Our Washington correspondent, Mrs. Walton Colcord John, reports that the newly-formed organisation, the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, has nine nationally-known names in the United States behind it.

It is intended to publish two magazines. First, a monthly scientific journal containing articles on space flight, and, second, a popular monthly magazine of high quality with photographs in colour.

NEWS ITEMS FROM "THE TIMES"

September 11, 1956

20,000 PHOTOGRAPHS OF MARS

STUDY TO LAST FOUR YEARS

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

BLOEMFONTEIN, Sept. 10.

Investigations of the planet Mars, which reached a climax at the weekend when it made its nearest approach to the Earth in the last 32 years, were intensified today as the Earth, Mars and the Sun were all in a line. But the work of Dr. E. C. Slipher, a well-known authority on Mars, will continue in Bloemfontein until December, and the full significance of this year's observations may only be known in four or five years.

Dr. Slipher has been working each night at the Lamont-Hussey observatory, at the top of Naval Hill here. With 20,000 photographs already taken, many of which have yet to be developed, the full significance of the present studies may only emerge about 1960.

Dr. Slipher, who sponsored jointly the National Geographic Society Lowell observatory at Flagstaff, Arizona, will study the photographic records he has made here when he returns to Flagstaff at the end of the year. Results so far are promising.

Dr. Woolley, the Astronomer-Royal, commented that he did not think anyone would ever substantiate claims that life existed on Mars. Dr. Slipher said that was purely a biological question; he was studying the physical condition of the planet.

Our Astronomical Correspondent writes:

There is not a shred of evidence to support the theory that life exists on Mars. Such an idea should be killed, for it has been the bane of astronomy for years. The present study of Mars is purely routine. There will be greater interest in Mars among astronomers in England in 1958, when it will be seen three or four times more clearly than this year. It will be very much higher in the sky and there will be an opportunity of getting better results.

September 13, 1956

TWO "CANALS" SEEN ON MARS

Soviet astronomers observing Mars have noticed two canals running parallel from the north to the south poles, the Tass news agency stated yesterday. The astronomers said the white polar ice area was thawing and the melting snow was making the soil damp. A dark brownish-red colour, rather like the colour of early spring vegetation on the Earth, was visible in the polar area, the report said, and it added that this once more gave evidence of plant life on Mars.—*Reuter*.

Moscow is evidently not party to the conspiracy of silence (vide "The Flying Saucer Conspiracy," by Major Donald E. Keyhoe). We are reminded of the authoritative report from "Flying Saucer Review's" special correspondent in America (January/February issue, 1956) that "the U.S. wanted her people to concentrate on the real menace—Communism; and not be distracted by the visitors from outer space."

Can it be that Dr. Woolley turns a blind eye to his telescope, in the belief that he is doing his duty, and *The Times* Astronomical Correspondent gave up looking a long while ago?

Nevertheless, we congratulate *The Times* and we express confidence that, in our Western democracies, freedom of information and scientific truth will prevail.

TRANS-ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW wishes *bon voyage* and a successful outcome to the great adventure to members of the Trans-Antarctic Expedition leaving England in the *Magga Dan* on November 14. They are taking with them copies of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, May-June issue, containing an article based on Antarctica.

SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL ASTRONAUTICAL CONGRESS

The seventh International Astronautical Congress met in Rome during the week ended September 22.

Mr. Andrew Haley, an American delegate, discussing "Space Law," said that if there was any reason to believe that life exists on another planet, then no space-ship from earth must land until:

(1) it has been established that the landing will not injure the explorer or the explored,

(2) the spaceship has been invited to land.

Mr. Haley is chairman of the board of directors of the American Rocket Society and founder-member of Aerojet Engineering, the American firm of jet-assisted take-off rocket manufacturers.

He said there could be no exception to such a rule or "we will project into space the bleak and devastating geocentric crimes of mankind."

The chief German delegate, Professor Sanger, gave a paper, "The Possibility of Reaching the Fixed Stars."

He spoke of the possibility of earth-made spaceships approaching the speed of light at 186,264 miles per second. Such ships could reach the farthest planets.

The time needed to travel such fantastic distances would not be noted by spaceship crews at the time, said the German scientist.

If Einstein's theory of relativity was applied, the terrestrial years would pass like seconds for the members of the crew, who could fly for years without growing a day older.

The shock to the rocket flyers would come on their return to the earth. They would find their wives and friends had died and their children grown old during a voyage, which to them had seemingly taken only a few days.

The possibility of life being discovered on Mars and Venus by the first space explorers from earth was discussed in a paper by Dr. Hubertus Strughold, of the United States.

He held that both planets are within the temperature range which permits the existence of active life.

SELECTED BOOKS

Reviewed by The Editor

INTO THIS WORLD AND OUT AGAIN, by G. W. Van Tassel. (De Vorss & Co., Los Angeles, 94 pages, $1.50.)

Flying saucer researchers will recall the author's earlier work, *I Rode A Flying Saucer*, published in 1952.

His new one, published this year, is, I feel, a sincerely written book. Everyone must read and judge it for themselves. They must make their own choice as to the truth or not of Mr. Van Tassel's thought communications from the space people and their message. He claims that the book is verified by the Holy Bible.

The author's background is of interest. He worked for four years as a flight mechanic for airlines at Chicago and Cleveland. In 1930 he came to California and was employed by Douglas Aircraft at Santa Monica for eight and a half years. He went to work with Howard Hughes in 1941, and remained with him two and a half years. Subsequently, he went to Lockheed Aircraft at Burbank, California, for four and a half years' flight test work. While there, he came to a decision to live in the peace of the desert, after almost twenty years of aircraft experience.

He leased an abandoned airport at Giant Rock from the Government in 1947, and has been operating it ever since. He organised a small group to research into phenomena that are not explained by orthodox science, and, especially, into flying saucers and thought transference.

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A Good Combination

Sir,

The most startling item in your history of " Saucers " is that they date back into pre-history. If those visits were friendly they ought surely to have abolished all misunderstanding as easily as the interpretation of unknown languages. Friendly behaviour plus *speech* is a combination capable of ending all enstrangement.

You are quite welcome to quote anything in my letters that you think may be of interest.

LAURENCE HOUSMAN,
Street, Somerset.

(*Flying Saucer Review* is privileged to publish this letter from Mr. Laurence Housman, the distinguished playwright and poet. He is 91.—Ed.)

The Official Attitude

Sir,

It is the mission of the Air Forces to watch over national security and to try to prevent any attack from the air. Hence, when the Flying Saucers appeared, the investigation of the matter was entrusted to them. But the fulfilment of this task by such a military organisation and the explanations it can offer us are subject to the following limitations:

(a) *Scientific Ability.*—By the nature of their mission the Armed Forces will be very competent in strategy and military technique but they lack the wide scientific groundwork needed if they are to pronounce authoritatively on a matter which is so complicated and, at bottom, strictly of a scientific nature. This incapacity to resolve scientific questions has been demonstrated on various occasions. When in July 1952 panic was threatened in Washington through the appearance for some hours of Flying Saucers over the North American capital and its prohibited areas, General Samford, Chief of Intelligence Branch, found himself obliged to hold a press conference and could find no better smoke cloud than putting across Dr. Menzel's unconvincing theory. When his replies were challenged by competent representatives of the press, the general's answers and evasions revealed, in addition to the military policy of silence, his inability to deal with objections of a purely scientific nature to such an extent that one of the journalists present commented at the end of the long session: " I have never heard so much and learned so little."

Albert M. Chop, chief Public Relations Officer of the Pentagon and " Project Blue Book ", stated.—" One of the major difficulties the Air Force is up against is getting hold of TOP RANK scientists for investigating the phenomena of the Saucers."

(b) *Military Regulations.*—An investigating body composed of members of the Armed Forces is perforce subject to military regulations and to considerations and pressure of a political order.

Even though it may reach some definite conclusion, that conclusion will not be made public if higher authority decrees otherwise. There, to a large extent, we have the explanation of the notorious contradictions in which the Air Forces and their various spokesmen are entangled. Major Keyhoe, who is very closely connected with Pentagon circles, speaks of the " silence group " in the Air Force—determined to hide the truth from the public—and the opposing group which does not agree with this policy of concealment. The character of the Air Force's periodical communiques varies according to which group's opinion is in the ascendant. There are many examples illustrating this. On July 4, 1947, the Air Force announced in Washington that it had completely given up the investigation because it was satisfied that nothing more than collective hysteria was involved; but *that same day* ATIC declared to the AP that it was actively engaged in the search for a solution.

(c) *National Security.*—The N. American Air Force knows, with absolute certainty, that many objects taken for Saucers are jet planes or globes or guided missiles in the experimental stage. But it also knows that a great number of them cannot be any of these things, nor yet atmospheric phenomena. Consequently it is faced with this dilemma: are they Russian machines or of extra-terrestrial origin? In view of the international situation, it can uphold neither solution without a risk of creating panic. In any case, it can affirm nothing so long as it lacks ABSOLUTE certainty and irrefutable proofs to back up its statements. In actual fact it looks as though it has neither absolute certainty nor definite proofs. Thus the only way to avoid catastrophic hysteria is to deny, in order to gain time. . . . *I am of the opinion that the investigation into the mystery of the Flying Saucers should be taken out of military hands and entrusted to an international commission of top-ranking scientists, to which all governments would lend their aid, making available without reservation all the data and information at present kept absolutely secret.* A commission of this nature could give us, if not perhaps a definite solution, then at least a REASONABLE and SCIENTIFIC theory in place of the negative crudities which no one believes in any case. This business of the Saucers is not a joke. It may be something very serious. If it were not so, the official commissions would have abandoned their study by now and strict orders would not have been given to military pilots to say nothing publicly about what they came across in the sky. If the matter were not serious, it would be hard to explain that hiding of facts from newspapers and news agencies which is so notorious. After pointing this out in *El Comercio* some time ago, I have seen it quoted and repeated in other publications all over the world. The official attitude may have its reasons and its apologists; but for those of us who have not a military mind and are accustomed to thinking for ourselves instead of in accordance with superior orders, this attitude is mistaken and can end by being immensely dangerous.

I suggest, that with a view to ensuring positive results from the efforts to reach a solution to the problem of the Flying Saucers that are being made independently by various civil organisations, it would be desirable to unite all these laudable efforts under a common management.

It Is Proposed

1. To recommend to the heads of all the civilian investigation organisations of the world that they should pool ideas with a view to creating a single World Organisation for Civilian Investigation into the F.S., the headquarters of this to be established in whichever country offers the maximum material and technical possibilities for the success of the investigation. The other national groups at present in existence would remain as organisations subsidiary to the central headquarters and be under the obligation to work on the lines laid down by the said Central Organisation.

2. To consider the possibility of presenting to U.N.O. a petition signed by all the heads or presidents of the present civilian enquiry groups, as well as by any individual who is actively concerned in the matter and who might wish to participate. The petition would urge that the official investigation of the problem, which at present is in the hands of *military groups* working in each country, should be taken over by an INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMISSION comprised of the *leading scientists* in each of the specialised fields with a bearing on the question, a Commission to which each government would hand over the whole of the data, studies and conclusions which it had accumulated to date, and which would be financed either from the economic resources of which the various governments are making use today to maintain their own military enquiry commissions or from U.N.O.'s own funds.

3. The World Organisation for Civilian Investigation, mentioned in the first proposition, would also offer its full support and collaboration to the International Scientific Commission cited in the second proposition. Or it might cease to exist altogether once the International Scientific Commission had been founded and begun to function, since the primary reason for founding the various civil investigation groups throughout the world was the discontent and lack of confidence evoked by the way in which the investigations were being conducted by the various official military commissions.

Alejandro de la Jara,
San Miguel, Lima, Peru.

(It is suggested that this abridged letter be studied alongside Charles A. Maney's article on page 14.—Ed.)

The Wrong Approach

Sir,

Reading the letter in your July/August issue (" Aldwinckle Plastered "), and having read elsewhere of the " Adamski controversy," I become more and more at a loss to understand why we of the human race are so sceptical and unwilling to believe that we cannot see or handle ourselves. Have we become so suspicious and shut-in that we cannot accept a man's word for what he has seen—or have we always been like that?

It seems obvious to me that if this sceptical attitude persists, then the existence of space-craft will never be believed, for as yet only a small percentage of the world's population has seen them. Unless a mass exhibition is put on show so that all cannot fail to see them, and believe, then it would seem that the efforts at " enlightenment " by your magazine and others will fail.

I have seen some of the " aerial phenomena," yet I know that were I to produce a hundred signed statements from witnesses, there are many who would not believe what I saw. This is a world, alas, where a man's word means little.

I have read as much u.f.o. news and information as I can; I have read other people's views, books and criticism. One clear fact emerges to me:—that (with the exception of a few) they who have not seen are they who twist and turn in turmoil; who will not accept what others have seen; who pour scorn and criticism on the " believers," an opposition masked under the guise of " a search for truth." But they are not really interested in the truth; they fear the truth; they fear the awe-inspiring and profound intelligence which, deep in their minds, they suspect to be in existence outside this world.

What kind of man was Adamski supposed to have met? Should he have been fierce, and armed, and should he have left Adamski with absolute proof of his visit—say, a hand-gun such as which could not possibly have been manufactured by we on earth?

It would not be irreverent, I think, to remember the words of a Wise Man who, displaying the holes through his hand, said, " Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed."

In Mr. Aldwinckle's article in May/June issue of your magazine, he says that he is not questioning what Adamski saw, or met; he is neither questioning Adamski's sincerity. But he does—by implication; and as a writer Mr. Aldwinckle ought to know that the presentation of ideas by implication is a very effective method. . . He forgets that if one believes Adamski, one must believe it all. If he doubts that plaster of Paris was taken on that trip, then the whole episode must be doubted. Mr. Aldwinckle forgets, or has not realised, that there is only one kind of person who is able to space-travel so effortlessly. Describe him, and you have the kind of man Adamski met. Allow me to quote Mr. Aldwinckle:—" The views, the romance, the philosophy, are charming and uplifting. They are noble in content if simple in expression. . . ."

Man will never space-travel by the brute mechanical forces which he now uses to fly with Mr. Aldwinckle. Man is wasting his time with his liquid fuels and dreams of atomic-powered craft. It has to be something else. . . something finer, more subtle. The incredible performance and " acrobatics " of the u.f.o. should give the clue, for nothing mechanically driven as we envisage it will ever " fly " like a u.f.o. But there it is—we view and investigate the u.f.o. with the wrong approach all the time. . . for the u.f.o. does not " fly " at all. Our approach to the whole matter is wrong: we have already decided what kind of being is in the u.f.o., and because the motive power of our flight is the plane, we have decided blindly that the motive power of Adamski's visitor was his " saucer." And if Adamski's visitor does not match our preconceived ideas then he cannot exist!

In all generosity I will give Mr. Aldwinckle and his fellow critics credit for sincerely endeavouring to " solve " the enigma; but could the problem be approached in a different manner? Seeing that the u.f.o.'s performance is so unorthodox, could we not approach the problem in an unorthodox manner? And after all, what could be more unorthodox in our materialistic world today than the " Adamski man "? Or the Wise Men Adamski met in the space craft? Indeed, these beings are as unorthodox as Christ—and we crucified him. And why? Because his views were " noble in content if simple in expression." His ideas were " loving, kind and hopeful." They were not destructive.

Mr. Aldwinckle says that Adamski is mentally and spiritually helpful, but only confuses the scientific observation of phenomena. Ah, Mr. Aldwinckle! How did Christ walk on the water? How did he ascend on a cloud? How did he " come back to life "? How was that large stone moved during the night from his tomb? How did he appear so suddenly on the Emmaus Road?

Would that our sceptics had been there with all the genius of their " scientific observation of phenomena "! Then they could have told us about all these things. As it is, we are inclined not to scoff too much at " religious ecstasy supported by fervour." And of course, the fact that the first man of our times to have had several direct contacts with non-terrestial beings has the name of Adam only confuses scientific observation!

C. G. Smith,
Gravesend, Kent.

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